Since her days as an undergraduate at the University of British Columbia, Mrs. Evelyn Lett has sought work that needed to be done, and pursued such tasks with an energy and spirit of service that has touched for good many aspects of our community life. Above all she has maintained an active belief in the importance of education. We at Simon Fraser University know her as a founding member of Convocation and as a member of our first Senate, in which capacity she served faithfully, patiently and with understanding throughout our challenging early years.

Born in Manitoba, Mrs. Lett later moved to Vancouver, where she distinguished herself at King Edward High School and at the University of British Columbia, from which she graduated with a Bachelor of Arts Degree. Having satisfied the requirements for her professional training in Saskatchewan, she followed a career in teaching and in social work on the Prairies and in this Province. Later she completed a Master's Degree in Sociology and History at the University of British Columbia.

Following her marriage to a rising young lawyer, a man with whom she had worked as a member and official of student organizations and who was later to make his own mark on the world scene as a distinguished and universally respected Canadian, Mrs. Lett dedicated herself to her family and to the service of the broader community. She devoted her talents, time and energy to a great many organizations, in each instance giving the full benefit of her impressive ability. As evidence of her continued dedication to service we note her success, at the age of 80, as chairman of the fund drive that made possible the completion of the Brock House project as an activity centre for senior citizens. Among Mrs. Lett’s many acknowledgements is the Great Trekker Award from the Alma Mater Society at the University of British Columbia and an honorary degree from that same Institution.

Mrs. Lett has been an active sponsor of the arts, a keen supporter of the Vancouver Symphony, the opera and the ballet, and she continues to make available her services to the Vancouver Academy of Music.

Today Simon Fraser University pays tribute to an outstanding woman who has dedicated her life to the time-honoured values of church and family, to duty, responsibility, and service. By energetically and unflaggingly serving others, she has kept herself vital, interested and aware in a manner we all might envy. As she is reported to have said, "Because of my life, I still have life in me”.

Mr. Chancellor, it is my privilege to present to you for the Degree of Doctor of Laws, Honoris Causa, EVELYN STORY SHERWOOD LETT.