Mr. Chancellor, I present to you Dr. John K. Friesen, a distinguished leader in the field of lifelong education - a man who believes passionately in the power of learning to better the community of mankind.

It is Dr. Friesen's depth of feeling, his vision of a better place for all to live, his capacity to stimulate those around him, and his exceptional organizational skills which have together made him one of the most highly respected practitioners and leaders in lifelong education.

Spanning more than 50 years, Dr. Friesen's career is an impressive continuity of accomplishment, in education, in the arts, and in international development. His dedication and service have benefited Canadians and citizens of other countries as well. John Friesen's leadership was pivotal to the establishment and development of numerous programs, including the most prominent university extension divisions in two countries, cooperatives in two provinces, professional adult education programs, family planning programs in several nations, community arts programs, and Canadian and international associations committed to improving relations between the peoples of the world.

After many years of distinguished work in Canada, John Friesen devoted fifteen further years to international causes. Assignments with the Population Council and the International Development Research Centre placed him in key positions in the Middle East, East Africa, and Southeast Asia.

This year presents a most auspicious context for recognizing John Friesen's accomplishments, for 1985 marks the fiftieth anniversary of the Canadian Association for Adult Education. The man, and the Association, have a remarkable history of helping to shape the national policies and programs that have fostered learning in Canada and promoted its critical role in enhancing our civilization.

Mr. Chancellor, I now ask on behalf of the Senate of this University that you confer upon John K. Friesen the Degree of Doctor of Laws, honoris causa.