Mr. Chancellor, every generation produces individuals who by virtue of intellect and daring offer a compelling vision of the world and radically alter our perspective of it. Dr. Jeffrey Sachs is one such visionary. Widely regarded as the foremost economic reformer of our time, Jeffrey Sachs has dedicated his penetrating intellect and capacious heart to improving the world economy and to controlling disease on a global scale.

The scope of his career is remarkable. Its trajectory is guided by a fundamental question: What makes a good society? Jeffrey Sachs has journeyed far and wide in search of answers. He joined Harvard’s faculty in 1980 as an assistant professor and in 1983, he was made full professor. Two years later, he was called upon to help solve Bolivia’s problems with hyperinflation.

Admired not only for his brilliance as an economist, but also for his vast knowledge of the natural sciences as well as several disciplines in public health and medicine, Jeffrey Sachs was soon sought by other governments of nations in crisis. For more than 20 years, he has used his unique talents to aid countries on every continent, assisting them with economic policy reform and with poverty reduction and disease control.

Currently, as Director of the Earth Institute, Quetelet Professor of Sustainable Development, and Professor of Health Policy and Management at Columbia University, Jeffrey Sachs carries on with his mission to make the world a more equitable place for all. As scholar, activist, author of numerous books and articles, and as a Special Advisor to the United Nations, he is not only a catalyst for change, but also a voice of reason that prods our conscience. He is the principal author of the United Nations’ *Millennium Goals* to eliminate global poverty and its collateral damage to the quality and dignity of human life. He courageously reminds us that these goals can be achieved if only the rich world would stick to the promises it has repeatedly made over the past 35 years. His unrelenting advocacy testifies to his commitment to the underprivileged in all countries.

Jeffrey Sachs has received many honours for his singular contributions to the global community. Named by Time Magazine as one of 100 most influential people in the world, he holds several honorary degrees, and is also a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the Harvard Society of Fellows. Today, it is our privilege to pay him tribute.

Mr. Chancellor, on behalf of the Senate of this University, I take great pride in asking you to confer upon Dr. Jeffrey Sachs the degree Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*. 