Mr. Chancellor, it is an honour to present Dr. Michael Smith. A brilliant biochemist, Michael Smith is also a humanitarian who is profoundly interested in schizophrenia research, science and public awareness, and the promotion and encouragement of women in science.

Born in Blackpool, England, he received his Ph.D. at the University of Manchester in 1956 and completed his post-doctoral fellowship with the B.C. Research Council in 1960. He subsequently joined the University of Wisconsin as a research associate. He returned to UBC in 1966, where he has been a full professor in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology since 1970, and Director of the Biotechnology Laboratory since 1987. In 1990, he was appointed Scientific Leader of the Protein Engineering Networks of Centres of Excellence.

Based on his pioneering experience in DNA sequencing, Michael Smith developed a breakthrough method for site-directed mutagenesis of recombinant DNA using oligonucleotide primers. This method allows the researcher to alter cloned genes and the proteins they encode in specific ways. Scientists the world over use this technique in their efforts to understand how cancer and virus genes work. In awarding him the Nobel Prize for Chemistry in 1993, the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences said, "Site-directed mutagenesis has without a doubt revolutionized basic research and entirely changed researchers' ways of performing their experiments."

For his remarkable achievements, Michael Smith has received numerous other awards and distinctions including the Killam Research Prize; a Gold Medal of the Science Council of BC; the Award of Excellence, Genetics Society of Canada; and the Flavelle Medale, Royal Society of Canada. In 1986, he was appointed a Fellow of the Royal Society, London, adding his name to a distinguished list that includes Newton, Huxley and Darwin.

After receiving the Nobel Prize, Michael Smith, in a wonderfully generous act, established an Endowment Fund with his prize money. The Fund will benefit scientists in B.C. who are entering the field of schizophrenia research as well as young people, and especially women, who are considering entering the sciences.

Michael Smith's belief in the importance of science also shows itself in his willingness to support the efforts of colleagues throughout the scientific community. For several years, he has taken a keen interest in our Institute of Molecular Biology and Biochemistry, lending his advice to its developing research programs. We at Simon Fraser University are grateful for his friendship and wisdom.
Mr. Chancellor, it has been said that science is the search for truth. Michael Smith has devoted his life to this quest, and he has done so with humor, grace, and compassion. For his contributions to science and for his generosity to the people of this province, Mr. Chancellor, it is my great privilege on behalf of Simon Fraser University to present Michael Smith for the Degree of Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*. 