Dale R. Corson, native of Kansas and a graduate of the College of Emporia, you pursued your love of Physics at the University of California at Berkeley where you earned the Ph.D. Your distinguished service during and after World War II, working on radar and atomic energy, was recognized by an Air Force Commendation and a Presidential Certificate of Merit. After these contributions to our national defense at M.I.T., in Washington, and at Los Alamos, you began, in 1946, a life-long relationship with Cornell University. Teacher of generations of Cornell students, some of whom have received the Nobel Prize, designer of the Cornell Synchrotron, you were early drawn to administrative tasks. You became Chairman of the Department of Physics, then Dean of the College of Engineering, then Provost, and then President.

You were called upon to assume the presidency of Cornell in 1969 at a time of deep trouble in Ithaca and the nation. The anti-Vietnam War movement and the civil rights movement, coinciding with demands for change in academia and attacks on authority, had left Cornell divided against itself. University governance degenerated into a committee of the whole meeting in Barton Hall. Intellectual and political excesses threatened institutional anarchy. Your faculty colleagues joined others in calling upon the Cornell trustees to elevate you from the office of provost to the presidency. You quickly drew upon the intelligence of faculty, students, administrators, and trustees to restore good sense and to rebuild the structures of university governance. With your unflappable Kansas cool, your patience with committees, and your unusual combination of openness and firmness, you steadied Cornell's nerves and presided over the rescue of one of the world's great universities. If any man can be said to have saved a university, you, Dale Carson, did so during your eight years as President of Cornell University.

Even before your elevation to the position of Chancellor in 1977, then to President Emeritus in 1979, you began a new career as chairman of national and international committees on critical problems. In 1974 you chaired the Commission on Physicians for the Future, analyzing the potential surplus or shortage of doctors. From 1979 to 1981 you chaired the National Research Council's Committee on Satellite Power Systems, studying the possibilities of solar power stations in space by the end of the century. In 1982 the National Academy of Sciences and the National Academy of Engineering were concerned about the threatened restriction, in the name of national defense, of the free flow of research results among scientists. You chaired the Panel on Scientific Communication and National Security and delivered its report. At present you chair two important efforts—one, the Government-University-Industry Research Round Table in Washington which monitors and encourages the relationships among these three sectors so vital to our national creativity and productivity. The other is the International Advisory Panel on the Chinese University Development Project, responsible for overseeing the use of a several hundred million dollar World Bank loan to re-establish science education and research in Chinese universities in the wake of the Cultural Revolution.

In these delicate assignments you bring the rare gift of discovering points of agreement, pressing for clarification of differences, and formulating the results in terms of clear choices. You early learned the power of a concise, well-organized committee report. You bring convergence out of divergence in committees as naturally as the scientist discovers order in nature.

You have shared your talents as scientist, educator, administrator, and committee chairman with groups both large and small. The world is your laboratory, your classroom, and your committee room. You have stimulated others to focus on the most promising uses of science and technology to deal with the problems we humans have created. Your optimism is reassuring coming from one who has been privy to the most impressive accomplishments and most threatening technologies our century has produced. One glimpses that optimism in your splendid
photographs of flowers, children, cathedrals, and landscapes, even as one observes your respect for the order of nature in the sundials you have designed for the Engineering quadrangle at Cornell and the circle at Deep Springs.

In recognizing your remarkable career and your continuing commitments, Wilkes College identifies itself with an education in which science is applied to the problems and opportunities of human beings, in which humane sensitivity fosters understanding, and in which integrity reigns supreme.

By the power vested in me by the Board of Trustees and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, I confer upon Dale R. Corson the degree of Doctor of Science, with all the rights and privileges appertaining thereto.