Born in Baltimore, you were raised in Kingston from the age of four. Your father, Charles Frederick Rudolph, managed the Kirby-Woolworth store in downtown Wilkes-Barre. A proud graduate in the Class of 1938 at Wyoming Seminary, you have served your alma mater as trustee and it has honored you with its Distinguished Service Award. You went on to Williams College in Massachusetts, one of the nation's oldest and most prestigious institutions of higher learning. Here you found your home for life, graduating with a B.A. in History in 1942 and returning to teach, after service in the Army in World War II and graduate work at Yale. In addition to visiting professorships at Harvard and Berkeley, you taught at Williams from 1951 until your retirement in 1982 and continue as the Mark Hopkins Professor of History, Emeritus.

While developing one of the leading American Studies programs in the nation at Williams, you also became the college's historian. Through your doctoral dissertation, which became your first book, entitled *Mark Hopkins and the Log*, you focused on what had become the ideal of the liberal arts college in 19th century America: Mark Hopkins, the President of Williams College, on one end of the log and a student on the other. In illuminating the development of Williams College under the thirty-six year presidency of Mark Hopkins, you also demonstrated the pivotal development of the liberal arts college in mid-nineteenth century America to create one of the most characteristic and enduring American institutions. You became the premier historian of both American colleges and their curriculum from 1636 down to the present. Your classic, *The American College and University: A History*, was recently reissued in a revised edition nearly three decades after its initial publication. In your several books and many articles on colleges and curricula, you have also dealt with football and fraternities as well as professors, presidents and students, the last the most important group of them all. When the present period of dramatic economic, social and political change began in earnest in the early 1980's, at a time when you were the executive editor of CHANGE Magazine, you were selected to be author of the major report, "The Integrity in the College Curriculum," issued by the Association of American Colleges in 1985, one of the most influential of the many urgent reports on the American educational system that were produced in the 1980's.

But it is as teacher that we most honor you today. I can speak from personal experience as one of your younger colleagues at Williams, whose office was across the hall, that in your office the log was replaced by a comfortable sofa and chairs. The students came in a steady stream every day to converse with you about their lives, the history of the country, and, in days that I can recall, such urgent issues as the Vietnam War. Many freshmen and sophomores, who were not exactly intellectuals when they first took your American Civilization courses, ended up their Williams careers writing honors essays that were published. You started many on their way to the scholarly life and careers of distinction. In addition, you offered Williams students as early as the 1950's a course on the Negro in American History, one of the first in the northeastern United States. Along with your early teaching of women's history, you were a forerunner of the movement opening up the history curriculum to studies of all parts of the American family, now, almost a half century later, a central feature of college curricula throughout the nation.

Your home has always brought together students, faculty and alumni, including leading scholars, artists, businessmen and women, poets and musicians, in a true salon, presided over by your fantastic life-mate, mother of two lovely daughters and fellow world traveler, Dorothy Dannenbaum Rudolph. You both have created an environment of culture and sophistication that is not only the synonym for delight. For many students and younger faculty the standards for cultured sociability were set at the Rudolphs' on Ide Road in Williamstown. Here intelligence, wit, and conviviality-stimulated by excellent food and drink-coincide to encourage a sharing of experiences and perspectives on everything from art to politics.

Wilkes University is proud to join the many educational associations, colleges and universities which have honored you for your scholarship, your teaching, and your national leadership in debates on the future of higher education. We honor you as a child of the Wyoming Valley who
has brought national distinction to your home community, and as one who has helped thousands of students at the other end of the log to see their way more clearly and live their adult lives more fully—a goal our Wilkes faculty share for our students, including these graduates today.

It is a deep personal pleasure for me, Frederick Rudolph, by virtue of the power vested in me by the Board of Trustees of Wilkes University and by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to bestow upon you the degree, Doctor of Humane Letters, Honoris Causa, with all the rights and privileges appertaining thereto.