HONORARY DEGREE

Doctor of Humane Letters..................................................Christopher N. Breiseth

Native of Minnesota with strong California roots; honors graduate of UCLA with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Modern British History; graduate of Oxford University with a Bachelor of Letters degree in Modern British History; PhD graduate of Cornell University in European Intellectual History; Assistant Professor of History at Williams College; Director of Program Guidance for the United States Office of Economic Opportunity; Danforth Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Chicago; Professor of History at Sangamon State University; President of Deep Springs College; the fourth President of Wilkes University, serving for 17 years from 1984 through 2001; and President and Chief Executive Officer of the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute from 2001 through 2009.

Because you have worked throughout your career to create understanding for issues of social justice to bridge divides and end intolerance; because you have used your influence and intellect to perpetuate the legacies of Abraham Lincoln, Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt, and Frances Perkins; because of your ability to make history relevant to public policy locally, nationally and internationally; because of your lasting contributions to the success of Wilkes University that include the building of the Arnaud C. Marts Sports and Conference Center, the Frank M. and Dorothea Henry Student Center, the Munson Field House and the academic building, now known as Breiseth Hall, named by the Trustees in your honor, which is home to the Jane Morhouse Breiseth Gallery – a recognition of your beloved late wife and her lasting influence on the campus, the creation of the Nesbitt School of Pharmacy, the achievement of university status for Wilkes, and your tireless efforts to strengthen the bonds between Wilkes and its communities; because of our admiration for the personal and professional life you have led, by the power vested in me by the Board of Trustees of Wilkes University and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, I confer upon you, Christopher N. Breiseth, the Doctor of Humane Letters degree, honoris causa, with all the rights and privileges appertaining thereto.