



**SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY  
SPRING CONVOCATION  
JUNE 2, 3, 4, and 5, 2009**

**Convocation Address**  
**By Dr. Richard Henriquez**  
Renowned Vancouver architect

*An honorary Doctor of Laws was conferred on Dr. Richard Henriquez during the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Ceremony on Wednesday, June 3, 2009. The following is Dr. Henriquez's convocation address.*

Chancellor Louie, President Stevenson, Members of the Board, Members of the Faculty, Honored Guests, Graduates, family and friends.

My warmest congratulations to the Class of 2009 in the Arts and Social Sciences. I am extraordinarily honored and pleased to share this special occasion with you, your family and your friends. My sincere thanks to those who nominated me and to the University for awarding me, this degree. Graduates, as with your degrees, mine is an honor that I share with the people who have supported me and who are part of my private and professional life. Some of them are here today, including two of the most special; my grandchildren Sarita and Jacob Henriquez.

Graduates, I am sure every one of you has a unique and fascinating personal story. I suspect that more than a few of these are of "ancestral belonging" to Canada or of "immigration from foreign lands." All of you must realize though, how fortunate you are; firstly - to be living in this amazing country and secondly; to have received the education you did from this great University. I can guarantee that these two advantages alone will permit you to have a more fulfilling future than the vast majority of people on the planet. This, notwithstanding the concerns that some of you may have about finding jobs and paying off student loans in these uncertain economic times.

Since we are in different places in terms of our careers,

I would like to offer a few observations. They have to do with the need to "balance work and



of you will find places for yourselves that you can call home, as I have. I know you cannot wait to start this new chapter in your life and to live your own dreams.

I am confident that with the education that you have received at Simon Fraser University you will rise to challenge with integrity, creativity, intelligence and passion.

Graduates I wish you on this important day, good health and continued success. Once again thank you to Simon Fraser University for this wonderful and unexpected honor. And thank you, to all of you.