



SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

**Honorary Degree Citations
The degree of Doctor of Science, *honoris causa*,
conferred on Dr. James McEwen
Friday, June 5, 2009**

Mr. Chancellor, Dr. James McEwen is a world-renowned biomedical engineer whose talent for technological innovation, combined with an entrepreneurial spirit and a profound commitment to the public good, has brought great benefits to British Columbia.

He earned a Ph.D. in electrical engineering at the University of British Columbia and began his remarkable career at Vancouver General Hospital, where he founded and served as Director of the Biomedical Engineering Department. Realizing that electronic technologies could improve many medical devices, he formed his first company, Western Clinical Engineering Ltd., and subsequently invented a revolutionary microprocessor-controlled automatic tourniquet system, which is now used daily in thousands of surgical procedures world-wide. This was but the beginning. Today, James McEwen holds 160 patents for a wide variety of medical devices. As a result of the success of his surgical tourniquet-related inventions, he was honoured with the \$100,000 Principal Award for