

**SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY**

**Honorary Degree Citations  
The degree of Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*,  
conferred on Dr. Cornelia Hahn Oberlander  
Wednesday, June 5, 2002**

Mr. Chancellor, many appreciate beauty; only the exceptional few create it. I am honoured to present such an individual. Cornelia Hahn Oberlander, Canada's most distinguished landscape architect, belongs to that elite whose members inspire others with their vision. She has made a gift of her talent to all of us. We honour her today for fashioning landscapes that please the eye and nourish the soul.

She inherited her love of art and nature from her mother, Beate Hahn, who authored gardening books for children. One of the first women to enter Harvard University's Graduate School of Design, Cornelia Oberlander completed her studies in 1947 and embarked on a remarkable career that has spanned five decades and earned her the respect and admiration of peers the world over.

At the very heart of Cornelia Oberlander's design philosophy lies the conviction that we should build around nature, using whatever natural features a building site offers. From the very beginning, when as a young woman she collaborated w

Throughout her distinguished career Cornelia Hahn Oberlander has created havens of grace and repose that give all of us great pleasure. She has also shared her extraordinary talent with younger generations of landscape architects, making them acutely aware of nature's treasures. Mr. Chancellor, on behalf of the Senate of this University, and in recognition of her many unique contributions, I ask that you now confer upon Cornelia Hahn Oberlander the degree Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*.