



SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

Honorary Degree Citations The degree of Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*, conferred on Dr. Richard Lipsey Thursday, October 4, 2007

Mr. Chancellor, I am honoured to present one of the world's leading economists, Professor Emeritus Richard Lipsey. For more than fifty years, Dr. Lipsey has brought to his discipline the analytical talent of the scientist and the passion and insight of the artist. He has earned the admiration of colleagues around the world for his rare ability to combine theory and practice; to provide original theoretical insights into key problems in economics, to develop cogent public policy recommendations based on the application of fundamental economic theory and analysis, and to teach generations of students a rich understanding of complex new developments and controversies in the field.

A native of British Columbia, Richard Lipsey completed his Ph.D. at the London School of Economics and then embarked on a career lauded for its richness and diversity. From the very beginning, when he published his seminal papers "The General Theory of Second Best" and "The Theory of Customs Unions: A General Survey" until the publication of the 2006 Schumpeter prize-winning book entitled, "Economic Transformations: General Purpose Technologies and Long Term Economic Growth," he has produced work of ground-breaking importance. His bold thinking on general equilibrium theory has had a profound influence on contemporary economics, and he has furthered research in several areas, including micro and macro economic theory, international trade, industrial organization, and the development of technology and innovation.

An exceptionally gracious and generous scholar, Richard Lipsey has also devoted himself to education, both in the classroom and in the community. Prior to joining our faculty, he taught at several institutions, including the University of Essex and Queen's University, where he was Sir Edward Peacock Professor of Economics. Here at Simon Fraser University, he has inspired colleagues in the development of one of this country's foremost economics departments, and has inspired generations of students to think deeply about the nature of the subject. But in a profound sense, this entire country has been his classroom, for Richard Lipsey is one of those scholars who believe that theory must be applied if it is to effect change. His major works have been the basis for educating Canada's economists over the past half century. He has engaged willingly in policy debates, especially playing a leading role in the debate leading to the adoption of the North American Free Trade Agreement, but more generally giving astute advice to government, and broadening the discourse in the soc

Richard Lipsey has received numerous honours. He is an Officer of the Order of Canada and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada. In 2005, the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council presented him with its gold medal for lifetime research achievement. Eight universities have recognized his contributions with honorary degrees, and today Simon Fraser University joins that distinguished company.

Mr. Chancellor, on behalf of the Senate of this University, I ask that you now confer on Dr. Richard Lipsey the degree Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*.