

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

Honorary Degree Citations
The degree of Doctor of Laws, honoris causa,
conferred on Dr. John S. MacDonald
Friday, October 1, 1999

Mr. Chancellor, I am proud to present John S. MacDonald, an innovative engineer, visionary entrepreneur, and dedicated educator who has greatly enhanced British Columbia's reputation as a centre of high technology research and development.

A graduate of the University of British Columbia and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology where he earned his Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering, John MacDonald works in the areas of advanced digital systems engineering, remote sensing, image processing, and machine vision. In 1969 he co founded MacDonald Dettwiler and Associates Ltd., which began its operations out of his basement. Today, as MDA's Chairman, he presides over a company that employs 1400 people and is a world leader in remote sensing and imaging technology.

John MacDonald is a man motivated by the search for knowledge. He has gladly shared his ideas with hundreds of students, first as an Assistant Professor of Electrical Engineering at MIT and later as an Associate Professor at the University of British Columbia. Since 1983 he has