



**SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
SPRING CONVOCATION
JUNE 7, 8, 9, 2006**

Convocation Address

By

Dr. Maria Tippet

SFU Alumna and award winning author

An honorary doctor of laws was conferred on Dr. Maria Tippet during the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Ceremony on Thursday, June 8, 2006 at 2:30 pm. The following is Dr. Tippet's convocation address.

Chancellor, President Stevenson, faculty members, guests and fellow graduands,

Today most of you will be graduating having spent three or four years at Simon Fraser University. During that time you may have juggled a part-time - or even a full-time - job with your studies in order to pay for your education - unless you've been fortunate enough to have someone else pay for it. You will have made a lot of new friends; some of you will have even met your future partners. Finally, you have self-evidently taken a sufficient number of courses to have earned yourself a degree.

But after today, what will you get for all of your hard work? For tho.1&an[ard work? Fohave For th

So in the end it's not the "content" of my courses - that I remember cramming into my head just before an exam - that has remained with me. It is the "way" I was taught, the environment of the place where I studied, and the people I met up here that is significant.

I know that my time at Simon Fraser University made me into a different person - a more fulfilled person and, yes, an employable person too. My hope is that, when you look back on your study here in thirty years time, you can say the same.