ACADEMIC PROCESSION

NEW CASTLE BRASS QUINTET

WELCOMING REMARKS

RICHARD P. LIFTON, M.D., PH.D.

PRESIDENT AND CARSON FAMILY PROFESSOR

INTRODUCTION

SIDNEY STRICKLAND, PH.D.

DEAN OF GRADUATE AND POSTGRADUATE STUDIES
VICE PRESIDENT FOR EDUCATIONAL AFFAIRS

CONFERRING OF THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

DR. LIFTON

CONFERRING OF THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF SCIENCE, HONORIS CAUSA

DR. LIFTON

RUSSELL L. CARSON

NANCY HOPKINS, PH.D.

PAUL NURSE, PH.D.

ACADEMIC RECESSION

PLEASE JOIN US FOLLOWING THE CEREMONY FOR A RECEPTION
ON THE PEGGY ROCKEFELLER PLAZA.

ADELE BUBNYS

B.A., WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY

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ZHEN CHEN

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M.A., RICE UNIVERSITY

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MAY DOBOSIEWICZ

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UNIVERSIDAD DE BUENOS AIRES

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IN ABSENTIA

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SC.B., BROWN UNIVERSITY

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YETIŞ GÜLTEKIN

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M.SC., BOGAZICI UNIVERSITY

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ANNIE ISABEL CHASE HANDLER

B.A., AMHERST COLLEGE

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B.S., TEXAS CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

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MARCELO O. MAGNASCO
IN ABSENTIA

*PARTICIPANT IN THE TRI-INSTITUTIONAL M.D.-PH.D. PROGRAM

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ROBERT HELER

B.S., UNIVERSITY OF RICHMOND

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LUCIANO MARRAFFINI

IN ABSENTIA

DOOWON HUH*

B.A., CORNELL UNIVERSITY

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SOHAIL TAVAZOIE

MIRJAM HUNZIKER

B.S., UNIVERSITY OF ZURICH
M.S., SWISS FEDERAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, ZURICH

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UNIVERSIDAD DE BUENOS AIRES

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SAMANTHA B. LARSEN

B.S., B.A., UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH

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IN HAE LEE

B.S., UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

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SHAI SHAHAM

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MEGHAN AILEEN LOCKARD

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IAIN MARTYN

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JON MCGINN

B.S., STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK AT STONY BROOK

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DIMITRIOS MOIROGIANNIS

B.S., UNIVERSITY OF ATHENS
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IN ABSENTIA

MARIA VICTORIA MOYA

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*PARTICIPANT IN THE TRI-INSTITUTIONAL M.D.-PH.D. PROGRAM

KIMBERLY RICKMAN*

B.S., CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY

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MARCELO O. MAGNASCO
IN ABSENTIA

*PARTICIPANT IN THE TRI-INSTITUTIONAL M.D.-PH.D. PROGRAM

RUSSELL L. CARSON

Russell L. Carson, Chair Emeritus of the University's Board of Trustees, has been a dedicated and highly esteemed leader of the Rockefeller University community for nearly 30 years. He first visited Rockefeller when his daughter, Cecily, was a patient at The Rockefeller University Hospital in 1991. His interest in the University's mission led him to join The Rockefeller University Council in 1993 and the Board of Trustees in 1994. During Mr. Carson's exceptional tenure as Board Chair from 2005 to 2018, he led Rockefeller through one of the most transformational periods in its history. He spearheaded three successful fundraising campaigns that have raised nearly $2 billion, oversaw a significant expansion of the University's research programs, participated in the recruitment of 25 faculty members and three presidents, and was instrumental in the creation of the Collaborative Research Center and the Stavros Niarchos Foundation—David Rockefeller River Campus.

Mr. Carson is Chairman of The Carson Family Charitable Trust, a private foundation he and his immediate family established in 1991. The foundation is focused on New York City and supports nonprofit organizations in the fields of education, poverty relief, healthcare, medical science, and culture. Mr. Carson is currently Chairman of the Partnership for Inner-City Education, Co-Chairman of the New York Genome Center, Trustee Emeritus of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, a Trustee of New York-Presbyterian Hospital, and a Director of the National 9/11 Memorial and Museum. He is also Chairman Emeritus of Columbia Business School and a Trustee Emeritus of Dartmouth College.

Mr. Carson is a Founding Partner of Welsh, Carson, Anderson & Stowe (WCAS), one of the country's largest private equity firms. Since 1979 WCAS has raised 17 limited partnerships with total capital in excess of $25 billion. Mr. Carson led the firm's healthcare investment practice for many years.

After attending public high school in Toledo, Ohio, Mr. Carson went on to receive a B.A. degree in Economics from Dartmouth College in 1965 and an M.B.A. from Columbia Business School in 1967. He received an honorary degree from Dartmouth College in 2015.

NANCY HOPKINS, PH.D.

A relentlessly curious problem solver, Nancy Hopkins has made seminal discoveries in the fields of gene regulation, cancer-causing viruses, and vertebrate development. Not only is Dr. Hopkins a spectacular biologist, she has also been a pioneer in advancing the role of women in science. She initiated a campaign and has been a passionate advocate for the equitable treatment of female scientists in academia. Her efforts have helped to ensure that the nation's scientific talent is put to its best use.

Dr. Hopkins was born and raised in Manhattan. She attended The Spence School, where she realized her passion for science and math. As an undergraduate at Radcliffe College, she took a biology course and was electrified to learn about DNA. She became fascinated by the question of how genes are turned on and off.

Dr. Hopkins joined Mark Ptashne's lab at Harvard, where she showed that a protein in a bacterial virus binds to specific DNA sequences to control gene expression. After earning her Ph.D., she did a postdoctoral fellowship with Robert Pollack and James Watson at Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, studying viruses that induce tumors in animals. In 1973, she joined the faculty at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where she discovered mechanisms by which tumor viruses cause blood cancers, and the determinants of what hosts they can infect. She went on to develop methods for genetic analysis of zebrafish, which has become a premier model system for understanding vertebrate development and cancer biology. She is now the Amgen, Inc. Professor of Biology Emerita at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

As a professor at MIT, Dr. Hopkins recognized that institutions were systematically impeding the ability of female scientists to advance, garner resources, and gain recognition for their achievements. She organized her colleagues and thus launched a movement. The 1999 report that grew from her work as chair of the First Committee on Women Faculty in the School of Science at MIT has catalyzed a national movement to promote and ensure equity for women in science.

Among her many honors and awards, Dr. Hopkins is an elected member of the National Academy of Sciences, the National Academy of Medicine, and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

HONORARY DEGREE

PAUL NURSE, PH.D.

An innovative thinker and bold investigator, Paul Nurse has made crucial discoveries regarding the mechanisms that regulate cell replication, a process fundamental to all life forms. He has also been a highly effective leader and community builder in global science.

Born in Norwich and raised in Wembley, northwest London, Dr. Nurse was the first of his family to remain at school after 15 years of age. From his early childhood, Dr. Nurse was intensely curious about the natural world. His academic interests and aptitude stood out, but he gained admittance to university only after the chair of the genetics department at the University of Birmingham recognized his promise and waived the foreign language entrance requirement, thus circumventing his inability to pass a mandatory French exam.

After receiving his bachelor's degree, Dr. Nurse earned a Ph.D. at the University of East Anglia. For his postdoctoral work, he joined Murdoch Mitchison's lab at the University of Edinburgh followed by a senior fellowship at the University of Sussex. Dr. Nurse then went on to faculty positions at the Imperial Cancer Research Fund and Oxford University. By elegant genetic studies in yeast, he identified genes that regulate the orchestrated progression through the cell cycle, ensuring that key steps in cell growth, DNA replication, and preparation for chromosome segregation are achieved before the initiation of cell division. He went on to show that the same processes that regulate the cell cycle in yeast are also used by human cells, revealing the universality of cell cycle regulation among eukaryotes.

Dr. Nurse has also been a leader of the academic community. He served as director of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund and founded Cancer Research UK. He has also served as President of The Rockefeller University and of The Royal Society, the oldest science academy in the world. Most recently, he founded The Francis Crick Institute, which he continues to direct. Dr. Nurse's leadership has been characterized by creativity and bold vision, along with deep regard for the value of all individuals to the success of an institution, a quality that promotes strong communities.

In 2001, Dr. Nurse was awarded the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine, he has also received the Albert Lasker Basic Medical Research Award and the Copley Medal of the Royal Society, among numerous other accolades. He was knighted by HM The Queen in 1999, received France's Legion d'Honneur in 2002, and received the Japanese Order of the Rising Sun in 2018. He is presently a Chief Scientific Advisor of the European Commission.

Founded in 1901, The Rockefeller University is a world-renowned center for research and graduate education in the biomedical and physical sciences. The university's some 80 laboratories conduct research on a broad range of biological and biomedical questions with the mission of improving the understanding of life for the benefit of humanity. Over the years, Rockefeller has been the site of many historic breakthroughs, including the landmark discovery that genes are made of DNA. Twenty-five researchers associated with Rockefeller throughout its history have been awarded the Nobel Prize.

The graduate program, with a unique curriculum that emphasizes independent research, began in 1955 and was named in honor of David Rockefeller in 2005. Since the first convocation in 1959, The Rockefeller University has granted doctor of philosophy degrees to 1,292 individuals – including 30 students who will receive their Ph.D. degrees today.