

On the occasion of the conferring of
the degree of
Doctor of Laws *honoris causa*
upon

Denise Donlon

There are many ways to succeed in this world: invent a revolutionary product; create an innovative theory; be part of a reliable company; have a loving family.

However, there are many dreamers who struggle to realize their dreams. As Flanders & Swann said quoting *The Sloth*:

“I could paint a Mona Lisa, I could be another Caesar. Compose an oratorio that was sublime. The door's not shut on my genius but I just don't have the time.”

Dreams are not enough.

And there are many efficient managers who, though they may *plan*, end up disgruntled because they lack in vision.

Denise Donlon is an unabashed idealist who has succeeded repeatedly by bringing together a dream and a plan. She has been involved in many aspects of the Canadian and international music industry for years. From host, to producer, to director, to president, she has shaped tastes, careers, and policies.

She has organized events which have raised millions of dollars for AIDS research in Africa and for children affected by war around the world. She has been recognized for her contributions which help to foster developing literacy.

Eminent Chancellor, I present to you Denise Donlon, a role model for all when it comes to the face of success. Let us celebrate this bellwether who can make ideas into reality. As Ned Washington wrote:

“If your heart is in your dreams
No request is too extreme
When you wish upon a star
As dreamers do.”

On behalf of the Senate and the University, I invite you to invest Denise Donlon with the Degree of Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*.

13 June 2007