




DOCTOR OF HUMANE LETTERS

*Presented to Dr. Gary A. Sojka*

MAY 17, 2009

r. Gary A. Sojka, 13th president of Bucknell University, exemplifies support for the liberal arts and dedication to the teacher-scholar model of higher education.

During his tenure as president of Bucknell from 1984 to 1995, Dr. Sojka raised the University's national reputation for academic excellence and established a strong foundation of institutional prosperity. During this time, thanks to his leadership, the endowment fund and campus facilities enjoyed significant expansion that both strengthened the University and positioned it well for future generations of Bucknellians.

A passionate teacher, Dr. Sojka modeled the Bucknell tradition of excellence in highly individualized instruction. He taught biology throughout his presidency and beyond, and finally retired from the classroom in 2006. During his 22 years of service he was honored with many awards from University groups.

A man of generous spirit, Dr. Sojka is an exemplary ambassador of Bucknell who has remained deeply involved in University life and earned the lasting affection and respect of students, colleagues and friends. Today we recognize the loyalty and service of a remarkable teacher, scholar and administrator.

Whereas he has dedicated his life to scientific study and research; whereas his passion for teaching serves as a model for colleagues and an inspiration for students; whereas his presidency continued and strengthened Bucknell's long history of academic excellence and leadership in the liberal arts; whereas his philanthropic works have bettered the lives of many; Bucknell University is hereby proud to present, before the Class of 2009, the honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters to Dr. Gary A. Sojka.