

Bowdoin College

Commencement 1997

Paul Peter Brontas, native of Bangor, Maine, summa cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa graduate of the class of 1954, Marshall Scholar at Oxford University, graduate of Harvard Law School, senior partner at the Boston law firm of Hale & Dorr, trustee emeritus at Bowdoin College.

Today we celebrate your distinguished career as one of the nation's leading corporate and high technology lawyers. As an advisor and negotiator, you have brought many of the several hundred businesses that you represent to positions of leadership in their fields. You also brought your wise counsel to your role as political advisor for Michael Dukakis, chairing both his gubernatorial and his national presidential campaign committees.

We also recognize and applaud your remarkable commitment to the common good. You have served on the boards of numerous hospitals and wide variety of civic organizations.

And, you have served your College well: on the Alumni Council, as a member and then president of the Board of Overseers, as a member and then chair of the Board of Trustees. You served on the Pierce Commission that determined that Bowdoin should be coeducational; you worked to ensure that all social organizations at Bowdoin would be open to members of both sexes. As the Chair of the Board of Trustees, you managed the transition of the Governing Boards to a single Board of Trustees. And last year, you led the Governing Boards to appoint a commission to develop a philosophy and a model of residential life for the College. Following that mandate, we have envisioned a new future for the College, and we have begun to implement that vision.

In your distinguished career, your extensive record of public service, your unfailing willingness to counsel and advise, your commitment to community and the common good, you provide for all of us an inspiration of the highest degree.

President Edwards, I am honored to present to you **PAUL PETER BROUNTAS** for the degree of **DOCTOR OF LAWS**, *honoris causa*.

Presented by Professor Sarah F. McMahon