

BOWDOIN COLLEGE
COMMENCEMENT 1997

ROSALYNE SPINDEL BERNSTEIN, graduate of Radcliffe College and the University of Maine Law School, attorney and civic leader, we honor you today for your outstanding contributions to the people of Maine and for your exemplary service to Bowdoin College.

The range of areas in which you have worked so effectively to improve the quality of life in Maine is truly staggering. In education, in addition to your leadership role on behalf of Bowdoin, your service extends from the Portland School Committee to the governing boards of the Portland School of Art and the University of Maine Law School. In the arts, you have been a leader of the Portland Museum of Art for over 30 years. In medicine, you have long been a corporator of the Maine Medical Center, where you also served as trustee, and you are a former director of the Maine Cancer Research Foundation.

As a leader and member of major state commissions, you have helped shape policy to reform Maine's health care system and to restructure the processes by which the citizens of Maine are governed. Your work with the Maine Community Foundation, the Maine Housing Enterprise, and other groups too numerous to mention, demonstrates your determination to strengthen the private organizations so important to the people of this state. Your commitment to Maine's Jewish community is reflected in your leadership in the Jewish Federation of Southern Maine and the Maine branches of the Anti-Defamation League and the National Council of Jewish Women.

Named in 1973 as the first woman to serve on the College's Board of Overseers, you became Bowdoin's first woman trustee in 1981, a position you have held with great distinction. For the past 24 years an eloquent voice of reason, strength and vision, you have been a central figure guiding Bowdoin through what is surely its most important transition: to an institution committed fully to the education of both men and women.

President Edwards, I am honored to present to you **ROSALYNE SPINDEL BERNSTEIN** for the degree of **DOCTOR OF LAWS**, *honoris causa*.

Presented by Professor Allen Springer