

## **The Honorands of The 2005 Commencement**

### **Jung Chang Doctor of Letters**

Jung Chang was born in Yibin, Sichuan Province, China. At the age of 14 she was a Red Guard for a brief time. She subsequently worked as a peasant, a “barefoot doctor,” a steelworker, and an electrician. She entered Sichuan University, where she studied English and became an assistant lecturer. In 1978 she left China and entered York University in Britain. She received a Ph.D. in linguistics in 1982, and was the first person from the People’s Republic of China to receive a doctorate from a British university. Her book, *Wild Swans – Three Daughters of China* (1991), is an autobiographical look at twentieth-century China as seen through the eyes of three generations of women within her family. The book has won widespread acclaim – the NCR Book Award (UK), the UK Writers’ Guild’s Best Non-Fiction Book, and the Book of the Year (UK) in 1993 – and been translated into more than 30 languages. Her next book will be a monumental biography of Mao Zedong.