

**The Honorands of
The 2012 Commencement**

**Margaret W. Conkey
Doctor of Humane Letters**

Margaret Conkey recently retired from active teaching as the Class of 1960 Professor of Undergraduate Education Chair in the Department of Anthropology at the University of California-Berkeley, where she taught for twenty-four years and served for thirteen years as director of the campus-wide Archaeological Research Facility. A past president of the Society for American Archaeology, she recently served as president of the Archaeology Division of the American Anthropological Association. A graduate of Mount Holyoke College with master's degree and doctorate from the University of Chicago, Conkey has carried out research in the caves, rock shelters, and open-air archaeology sites of southwestern Europe for many years. She directs a landscape archaeology and survey project in the French Midi-Pyrénées, where her team is recovering extensive traces of Paleolithic activities. Since 2006 her international team has been excavating the first intact open air site in the region, which dates to about 17,000 years ago. She served on the Scientific Advisory Committee for the French cave art site, the Grotte Chauvet, and was the first American to visit the site directly. Additionally, she has been centrally involved in bringing a more balanced view to the study and understanding of gender in archaeology and past human societies, and is a strong advocate for the feminist practice of archaeology.