

The Honorands of The 2010 Commencement

Michael S. McPherson Doctor of Humane Letters

Michael S. McPherson is the president of the Spencer Foundation in Chicago and a nationally known economist and author whose expertise focuses on the interplay between education and economics. He earned his bachelor's degree in mathematics, master's degree in economics, and doctoral degree in economics at the University of Chicago. In a twenty-two-year career at Williams College, McPherson was professor of economics, chair of the economics department, and dean of the faculty. He then served as president of Macalester College in St. Paul, Minnesota, for seven years before being selected as the fifth president of the Spencer Foundation, which supports research about education. He has been a fellow of the Institute for Advanced Study and a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution; a trustee of the College Board and the American Council on Education; and president of the TIAA-CREF Board of Overseers. He is the author or co-author of *Crossing the Finish Line: Completing College at America's Public Universities*; *College Access: Opportunity or Privilege?*; and *Economic Analysis, Moral Philosophy, and Public Policy*. He was the founding co-editor of the journal *Economics and Philosophy*.