

The Honorands of The 2006 Commencement

Beverly Daniel Tatum Doctor of Humane Letters

Psychologist, educator, author, and college president Beverly Daniel Tatum is a nationally recognized authority on racial issues in America. A psychologist by training, Dr. Tatum received a B.A. from Wesleyan University in 1975, M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in clinical psychology from the University of Michigan, and an M.A. in religious studies from Hartford Seminary. She began her teaching career at the University of California at Santa Barbara, followed by several years at Westfield State College in Massachusetts, and thirteen years at Mt. Holyoke College, where she was professor, dean of the college and vice president for student affairs, and acting president. In 2002 she was named the ninth president of Spelman College, a historically black college for women located in Atlanta, Georgia. Dr. Tatum's research has examined racial identity development in teens, the impact of race on classroom dynamics, and the experiences of African-American families in predominantly white communities. Her books include *Assimilation Blues: Black Families in a White Community* (1987) and "*Why Are All the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria?*" and *Other Conversations About Race* (1997).