

DOUGLASS WILLEY WALKER, of the Class of 1935, doctor, teacher, medical director and vice president for medical affairs of the Maine Medical Center. Born in Thomaston, he prepared for Bowdoin at Thomaston High School and Hebron Academy, going on after graduation to earn his M.D. degree at Yale in 1939. In an active career, he has combined practice, teaching, and administration, and in each he has earned the plaudits of all with whom he has worked. Whether engaged as chief of pediatrics at the Laconia Hospital, or as associate professor of pediatrics at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, or in his present challenging capacity at the Maine Medical Center, he has brought to every task a breadth of vision and a level of energetic performance that has been wholly admirable and constructive. He has been rightly described by one of his colleagues as “coordinator, catalyst, educator, expediter, liaison officer, and not infrequently, the conscience of the medical staff.” Acutely aware of the importance of a medical institution’s community relationships and of the significance of having an accurate social and historical perspective on that relationship, he has performed a task at Maine Medical Center that will make him very difficult to replace when he retires at the end of the year. Bowdoin has long had a proud medical tradition, and he has, through his many services to community and profession, done much to preserve and, indeed, enhance that tradition. Truly devoted to serving the common good, he has made a reality of the aspirations that inspire liberal learning.

Honoris Causa, DOCTOR OF SCIENCE