

Scholars Day 1983

AMORY BLOCH LOVINS

Mr. President, I have the honor to present as a candidate for an honorary degree our 1983 Sesquicentennial Scholars Day lecturer, AMORY BLOCH LOVINS, physicist, social scientist, and public policy advocate. Mr. Lovins, whose undergraduate work was done at Harvard College and Magdalen College, Oxford, was a Junior Research Fellow of Merton College, Oxford, before joining and later becoming Vice President of the Friends of the Earth. Mr. Lovins holds an Oxford M.A. and received a D.Sc. from Bates College. He has served as Regent's lecturer in the University of California at both Berkeley and Riverside and was Grauer lecturer in the University of British Columbia. He has served as a member of the Energy Research Advisory Board of the United States Department of Energy. He has acted as a consulting experimental physicist to numerous clients including several United Nations agencies, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, the government of Lower Saxony, the Office of Technology Assessment of the United States Congress, and the states of California, Montana, and Alaska. He has published numerous articles and books elaborating his "soft energy paths," most recently with his wife, lawyer L. Hunter Lovins.

Amory Lovins has injected a fundamental and immensely influential new perspective into the international energy debate. He has articulated soft energy technologies, which use diverse renewable sources that are "matched in scale and in energy quality to our range of end-use needs."

Understanding well both the technical and economic aspects of energy use, his persuasive arguments are being taken seriously and acted upon by decision makers responsible for the hard energy paths dominating our energy technologies. His methods for energy management may provide the only paths to survival in a world increasingly aware of the destructive potential of its current technology.

Therefore, on behalf of the faculty of Kalamazoo College, I recommend that upon AMORY BLOCH LOVINS be conferred the honorary degree Doctor of Science.