

2016

Honorary Degree Award Citation for John Dreher

Lawrence University

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John Dreher

JOHN DREHER, your service as a faculty member at Lawrence has been long, loyal and exemplary. Since coming to Lawrence in 1963, you have anchored the philosophy department and the university in the consideration and pursuit of the Good with great success. As you have pointed out, understanding what is moral is not the same as acting morally. You, however, have demonstrated both moral understanding and moral action. You brought to Lawrence knowledge gained by earning a bachelor's degree at St. Peter's, a master's degree at Fordham and a Ph.D. at the University of Chicago. You demonstrated your great ability as a faculty member, gaining tenure in 1968 and being promoted to full professor in 1990. You served with distinction as *Freshman Studies* director and, much later, earned the *Freshman Studies* Teaching Award. In 1989, you were

awarded Lawrence's highest honor for teaching, the Excellence in Teaching Award. Your students praise your careful organization and willingness to give them many hours of guidance in sharpening their argumentation and writing skills. Although you are a campus expert on Plato and Aristotle, you developed courses in many areas, including a course in environmental ethics. This showed a clear devotion to using ancient philosophy to address issues of a contemporary nature. In doing so, you have demonstrated to all the great value of a liberal education grounded in the wisdom of many centuries.

In recognition of your many contributions to Lawrence and its students, I am pleased to award you the degree of Master of Arts, *ad eundem*, on the occasion of your retirement from the faculty.

June 12, 2016