

Richard Hampton Jenrette
Doctor of Laws

Richard Hampton Jenrette received his A.B. in Journalism from The University in 1951. As an undergraduate he was editor of the Daily Tar Heel and a member of Phi Beta Kappa and the Order of the Golden Fleece. In 1959 he was a founding partner of Donaldson, Lufkin and Jenrette, an investment banking firm that prospered under his leadership. In 1981, the firm was acquired by Equitable Life Assurance Society. Jenrette eventually became chief executive officer of the Equitable and is credited with redeeming the company from impending financial collapse. He retired from the firm in 1996 to wide acclaim for his role as a statesman of business. Outside the field of business, Mr. Jenrette's two chief interests have been The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and historic preservation. He has served on our Board of Trustees and is largely responsible for the superb renovation and restoration of Old East and Old West as part of the Bicentennial Observance. He has restored and refurnished several historic houses, including Edgewater (1820) at Barrytown, New York; the Roper House (1838) in Charleston; Millford Plantation (1839) near Sumter, South Carolina; and Ayr Mount (1815) at Hillsborough.

For his long career as a creative and highly successful man of business, his record as a generous friend and patron of The University and other educational institutions, and his national leadership in the cause of historic preservation, his alma mater is pleased to confer on Richard Hampton Jenrette the degree of Doctor of Laws.