

Honoris Causa

The role of the alumnus was much on President Michael McRobbie's mind at the end of his China tour when he travelled to Brisbane, Australia. He had been an undergraduate at the University of



The Honorable Sir Llewellyn Edwards AC, Chancellor of the University of Queensland, presents IU President Michael McRobbie with his honorary doctorate.

Queensland, and the visit in December was the occasion for the institution that had awarded McRobbie with his first degree to honor him again, this time with the Doctor of Science honoris causa. The degree was conferred at the graduation ceremony for engineering, physical sciences, and architecture. It was McRobbie's second major recognition from Australia in a

month; the first was to be made honorary fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities.

When asked by his original alma mater for advice, McRobbie thought of the value

and importance of alumni. "Graduates of Indiana University are the most dedicated and loyal to their alma mater of any that I have encountered in my extensive travels. We have more than a half million living graduates, and their support is key to our success. So much of what we have at the university is a result of what our alumni have given back."

The stop in Brisbane was the last in his China tour. Patrick O'Meara, vice president for international affairs, feels the recent visits to China have been a great success. "If we look to the past, IU President Herman B Wells oriented the university to the world. He did everything he could to internationalize the university and left a great base to build on." The university's continuing efforts to play an international role have created great promise for the future. He told the Bloomington *Herald-Times*, "IU's long cooperation with Zhejiang, especially when fired by President McRobbie's personal interest and visit, give IU a unique chance for the future.

"I think the time is right for IU to do more in China," O'Meara said "We have great opportunities and great universities."

Of Note

Central Eurasian Studies Professor Appointed to U.S. National Council on Humanities

The U.S. Senate confirmed President George W. Bush's nomination of Jamsheed K. Choksy, professor of Central-Eurasian Studies, History, India Studies, and Religious Studies (adjunct), to a six-year term on the U.S. National Council on Humanities. The council is the primary advisory body to the National Endowment for the Humanities, the largest source of grants for humanities projects in the U.S.



Jamsheed K. Choksy

Columbia and Harvard. He received fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation, American Philosophical Society, Institute for Advanced Study (Princeton), and Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences (Stanford). He has published three books on religion and culture in Iran and Central Asia, and is currently working on a history of Iranian religions for Harvard University Press. He has chaired the IU

Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures and has directed the IU Middle Eastern Studies Program.

Now a U.S. citizen, Choksy was born in India, grew up in Sri Lanka, and was educated at