

HUGH MCKAY SCOTT

DCL BISHOP'S University, MAY 1999

Physician at the age of 22, cardiologist, director of the McGill Centre for Medical Education, Professor and Chair of Medicine (Université de Sherbrooke), Principal and Vice-Chancellor of Bishop's University, Executive Director of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, Executive Director of the McGill University Health Centre, these are a few of the many accomplishments of Hugh Scott.

Unconfined by his professional field, Dr. Scott is also celebrated for his enthusiastic patronage of the arts (l'orchestre de chambre, l'école de musique at l'Université de Sherbrooke), his active participation in local and regional affairs, his strong support of sports and education of all kinds, and his warm embrace of both French and English communities. A long-time resident of the Eastern Townships, Hugh Scott is a firm believer in the unparalleled opportunities and advantages both cultures afford. Profoundly committed to Bishop's, he was an energetic force in the highly successful *Learning for Life Capital Campaign* which raised some \$15m. In the belief that 'money makes money' (to coin a favourite Scott squash dictum!), he was instrumental in persuading the Quebec Government to commit a further \$10m towards the restoration and transformation of the university. Try to imagine, if you will, the campus of today without his efforts, without McGreer as its centre, or the splendid Bishop Williams Hall, Old Library, new library, the Williams School of Business and Economics, the studio theatre or the musically marvellous Bandeen Hall. Not content with structures alone, Hugh Scott was a vigorous advocate of the liberal education to which Bishop's subscribes, and the realization of a lively arts and social scene that unites the Lennoxville and Sherbrooke communities.

You may have wondered about the 'M' in H.M. Scott. Well, it stands for Herodotus-on-the-Massawippi Scott! Like his predecessor Christopher Nicholl, Dr. Scott is a keen amateur historian. Mindful of Bishop's history, he knew that a university is more than buildings and that Bishop's is more than its tradition. Just as Herodotus believed that the study of history led to freedom, so too Hugh Scott and others crafted our mission statement as "the education of individuals to realize their full potential in their intellectual, spiritual, social and physical dimensions". In all of this building and transformation lay a common aim: the restoration and strengthening of communal pride in our heritage and ourselves. As befits a cardiologist, he first restored the heart of Bishop's and then he breathed a new life into its corporate soul.

His accomplishments are many, his failings few, but of which brief mention! Keenly sensitive to issues of colour, but lacking all sense of colour, Hugh's bright, even lurid, green office carpet and equally 'arresting' jackets were the stuff of legend, but quickly became history when his beloved 'bride', Paule took over. Undeterred by this singular lack of sartorial appreciation, and mindful of his spartan Scottish ancestry, Hugh concentrates his energies on his shoes, a single pair of which, he maintains, should last a lifetime, and his go back to Culloden! Surrounded by his Brooks (the country singer, not the suit) and his 100-odd hippos, he nightly shines his shoes and reminds himself, not of

Garth's "I'm Much Too Young to Feel This Damn Old" (even though yesterday was his birthday!), but of his (Brooks's) line: "I just wake up and say, "You're a bum, go do something worthwhile today". Dr. Scott, today we celebrate you for the many worthwhile things that you have done!

Domine cancellarie et tota universitas, praesento vobis hunc virem spectatissimum, ut ad gradum doctoris in jure civile in nostra universitate, hOlUJris causa, admittatur

Robert W.E. Forrest, Ph.D
Professor of Religion, and Dean of Humanities
29 May 1999