

Approved Faculty Senate 9-21-71  
Approved General Faculty 9-21-71

PROPOSAL OF ROBBEN WRIGHT FLEMING  
FOR THE HONORARY DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF LAWS

The faculty of the College of Law nominates Robben Wright Fleming for the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws to be conferred on October 29, 1971, at the inauguration of President John Paul Schaefer.

Robben Wright Fleming was born in Illinois in 1916. He entered Beloit College in 1934 where after the first year he financed his own education by part-time jobs and scholarships. Despite this necessity, he was co-captain of the basketball team, a member of the track squad, served as president of the student body and was elected Phi Beta Kappa. On earning his B.A. in 1938, he studied law at the University of Wisconsin School of Law where he was elected to the Order of the Coif and received his LL.B. degree in 1941. His career as an attorney for the Securities and Exchange Commission was interrupted by World War II, during which, after a short stay with the National War Labor Board, he entered the United States Army and served in Africa and Western Europe and, at the end of the war, was discharged with the rank of captain. After another brief stint of government service in Washington, he entered university

administration as the Director of the Industrial Relations Center of the University of Wisconsin in 1947. In 1952 he moved to the University of Illinois as Director of the Institute of Labor and Industrial Relations. Thereafter he was appointed professor of law of the University of Illinois and in 1963 became an associate member of the Center for Advanced Study.

During all this time, Dr. Fleming built a national reputation as an expert in labor relations and in employment problems resulting from automation. During the Korean war he served as the Executive Director of the Wage Stabilization Board in Washington.

In 1964, Dr. Fleming returned to the University of Wisconsin as chancellor of the Madison campus. It was here during the beginnings of student unrest on the campuses that his reputation as an administrator whose flexibility was tempered with patience and firmness, began to grow. He became known as an administrator who would listen to complaints and often act on them but who set limits on student protest. While acting to accomplish needed changes in the University administration he continually emphasized the vital need to preserve intellectual freedom on the campus.

In 1967, Dr. Fleming was named the ninth president of the University of Michigan which had, at that time, an enrolment of nearly 37,000 students and an annual budget of \$186,000,000. At Ann Arbor, Dr. Fleming has led the university in developing an awareness of the new challenges of higher education and in fashioning the needed responses to those challenges.

Dr. Fleming has been a prolific scholar and has published numerous articles on labor law and industrial relations in professional periodicals. He is co-author of the book *The Politics of Wage-Price Decisions* and the author of *The Labor Arbitration Process*.

Dr. Fleming is a trustee of Beloit College and holds honorary degrees from that institution and 8 others as well.

Dr. Fleming is a university administrator of high distinction and a man whose professional career epitomizes the lawyer's role as conciliator and problem solver.

The faculty of the College of Law is honored to recommend Robben Wright Fleming for the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws.

  
Dean of the College of Law

September 16, 1971

Approved Faculty Senate 9-21-71  
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## GEORGE GREGSON

George Gregson was born in Bisbee, Arizona and attended grade schools in that community. Following graduation from Bisbee High School, he was admitted to the University of Arizona in September, 1920. For his first three undergraduate years he was enrolled in the College of Mines and Engineering, then transferred to the College of Letters, Arts and Sciences where he majored in chemistry and was graduated with the Bachelor of Science degree on May 28, 1924. He was a member of Phi Kappa Phi scholastic honorary society.

He was admitted to graduate study at the University of Arizona in September, 1925, majoring in metallurgy. He was awarded the Master of Science degree on June 2, 1926. His thesis subject was: "A Study of the Catalytic Qualities of Cupric Oxide in the formation of Sulphur Trioxide from Sulphur Dioxide and Air Mixtures with Special Reference to the Catalytic Effect of Cupric Oxide Which Has Been Pre-heated to Various Temperatures."

Mr. Gregson was a member of Sigma Chi fraternity, and became president of the chapter before graduation. He was instrumental in having a new home built for the fraternity on North Park Avenue while still an undergraduate. Always interested in athletics, he participated in intramural sports while in college.

After completing his studies at the University of Arizona, Mr. Gregson moved to California where he soon become interested in real estate. He joined the Janss Investment Company, one of the early real estate subdividers in California and subsequently developers of Westwood, in West Los Angeles. He is a director of Federated Mortgage Investors and of Janss Investment Company. Besides his business holdings in California, he is also interested in oil properties in Texas and Oklahoma and in business enterprises in Alaska.

Mr. Gregson has been an active and loyal alumnus of the University of Arizona. He is currently sponsor of eight annual scholarships, totaling \$4,800 a year. These include the Thomas G. Chapman Memorial Metallurgy Scholarship, honoring the former Dean of the College of Mines, open to sophomore, junior and senior students majoring in metallurgical engineering, with two \$600 scholarships available each year; the Frank M. Life Memorial Scholarship, honoring Dr. Life, who was Dean of the College of Liberal Arts in 1926-27 and Head of the Physics Department from 1927 to 1933, which provides two \$600 scholarships for worthy students who show academic promise in the field of physics; and four Alumni Scholarships of \$600 each, open to graduates of Bisbee High School. Each year Mr. Gregson comes to the campus for a luncheon with the recipients of the scholarships he sponsors.

In 1969 Mr. Gregson lent to the University of Arizona 53 paintings and 26 sculptural works for one of the most important loan exhibits to be held at the Museum of Art. The collection included an unusual representation of rare masterpieces of the Impressionist School, most of them from France, as well as products of the present day School of Paris and School of Japan. Mr. Gregson began his collection in 1956 in Paris when he acquired three paintings by contemporary French artists. His acquisitions have continued since that time. The exhibit at the University of Arizona was the first public showing of his collection, which was remarkable for its richness and variety, and which made a genuine contribution to the development of the UA Museum of Art.

In recognition of his professional achievements, and his contributions to education as a benefactor of the University's scholarship funds and as a patron of the arts, the faculty of the College of Mines recommends George Gregson for the degree of Doctor of Laws.