

Praeses et Curatores
Collegii Riponensis
Reipublicae Wisconsinensis
Omnibus has litteras perlecturis
Salutem

Nobis notum sit quod Dom

Bassam Z. Shakhshiri

Gradus Primi Candidatum Praeses Collegii Riponensis, Consentientibus Sociis et
Curatoribus, Titulo Gradusque

Doctoris Scientiae

adornavit, et ei fruenda contulit omnia et singula privilegia, honores et insignia, quae
hic et ubique ad eundem Gradum pertinent. Cujus rei hoc Diploma, publico Collegii

Sigillo et Praesidis autographo affixis, testimonio sit.

Datum ex Aedibus Academicis die decimo octavo mensis Maii

Anno Domini MCMXCI



Amos A. Lee Praeses

Curatorum Scriba *J. Zerk*

Citation for Bassam Z. Shakhashiri

Mr. President, I have the honor of presenting Bassam Z. Shakhashiri, candidate for the honorary degree, *Doctoris Scientiae*.

Currently Professor of Chemistry at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Dr. Shakhashiri has worn many hats in his effort to show the American public that "Science is Fun."

Dr. Shakhashiri is nationally-known for his development and use of science-oriented "magic" shows in teaching chemistry not only in classrooms, but also convention centers and shopping malls. His shows have played to packed houses at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Boston's Museum of Science, and the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum in Washington. His shows have also been aired nationally on television. One of his best-known efforts is an interactive chemistry exhibit which has been on permanent display since 1983 at the Chicago Museum of Science and Industry.

By demonstrating how much fun science can be, Dr. Shakhashiri has sought to impart the joy of discovery that has aroused young minds throughout history. This excitement, he believes, will lure future generations to careers as researchers, entrepreneurs and teachers on whom the nation's continuing economic health and national security will depend.

A native of Lebanon, Dr. Shakhashiri came to the United States in 1957 at the age of 18. He received his undergraduate degree from Boston University and master's and doctor's degrees from the University of Maryland. He came to the University of Wisconsin in 1970 and founded the Institute for Chemical Education at the university in 1983.

In 1984 Dr. Shakhashiri was sworn in as Assistant Director of the National Science Foundation for Science and Engineering Education. In this position he was the agency's principal education officer, responsible for the design and administration of programs to improve all levels of education in mathematics, engineering and science.

Under his leadership the program's budget increased more than fivefold and his vision and effectiveness in the development and implementation of national programs in science and engineering education became legendary. He returned the University of Wisconsin last fall and is now teaching introductory chemistry to over 300 students.

Mr. President, it is a privilege to present to you a professor who is unswerving in his dedication to educating the American public about science, an educator who demonstrates to us the intrigue and wonder that can be found through scientific study, a public servant whose vision and commitment has improved the educational system in America. Mr. President, I present Bassam Z. Shakhashiri, advocate of science, for the degree *Doctoris Scientiae*.