

Thomas Willis Lambeth
Doctor of Laws

Tom Lambeth is a senior fellow and retired executive director of the Z. Smith Reynolds foundation of Winston-Salem, N.C. A native Tar Heel whose North Carolina roots go back three centuries, Lambeth was educated in the public schools and received his B.A. degree in history from Carolina in 1957. His leadership qualities were recognized almost at once, as he was inducted into three of Carolina's student honorary societies — the Order of the Golden Fleece, the Order of the Grail and the Order of the Old Well. After a tour of active duty in the United States Army, he served as Governor Terry Sanford's chief administrative assistant, being at the time the youngest person in the nation to hold such a position. Later, he served as administrative assistant to U.S. Representative Richardson Preyer. Lambeth capped his career with 23 years of service as executive director of the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation. During that time, his work took him to every county in North Carolina and entailed directing more than \$260 million in grants to nonprofit organizations. He also found time to serve on Carolina's Board of Trustees, chairing it for two years, and an amazing host of other boards and commissions, such as the Ruth Z. Fleishman Foundation, the Council on Foundations, the National Center for Family Philanthropy, and the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. Lambeth's many honors include Carolina's Distinguished Alumnus Award, the General Alumni Association's Distinguished Service Medal, the Board of Trustees' William Richardson Davie Award, the UNC Board of Governors' University Award, and honorary degrees from Wake Forest University and Pfeiffer University. The Thomas Willis Lambeth Distinguished Professorship and the Lambeth Lecture in Public Policy at Carolina were both established in his honor. In retirement, Lambeth continues to serve North Carolina as a member of the board of the North Carolina chapter of the Environmental Defense Fund, the Hunt Institute for Educational Leadership and Carolina's School of Social Work, as well as the board of advisors of the UNC Center for Civil Rights.

For outstanding accomplishment in public service and philanthropy, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill is pleased to confer upon Thomas Willis Lambeth the degree of Doctor of Laws *honoris causa*.