

C. Dixon Spangler Jr.
Doctor of Laws

For more than three decades C. D. Spangler has stood astride the worlds of business and education like a colossus. A native of Charlotte, Spangler was the first in his family to attend college. He received his B.S. in Business from Carolina in 1954 and was inducted into the Order of the Golden Fleece. Upon graduation he earned his M.B.A. from the Harvard Business School, during which time his father also enrolled in the advanced management program. After a two-year tour of duty in the military, Spangler returned to the family business, C.D. Spangler Construction Company. He greatly expanded his family's financial interests to include Golden Eagle Industries, Inc., National Gypsum Company, and The Wakefield Group. He is credited with the turnaround of the Bank of North Carolina, started by his father. Today, C.D. Spangler is one of the most successful and admired businessmen of his generation.

While his many business interests expanded and prospered, C.D. Spangler undertook a parallel career in education that would have been more than enough to occupy the full time and attention of most people. In 1972 he was elected to the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education and served as its vice-chair. His leadership in that post was a major factor in the successful integration of North Carolina's largest public school system. From 1982 to 1986 he chaired the North Carolina State Board of Education, a vantage point that gave him deep insight into educational needs across the length and breadth of the State. In 1986 the Board of Governors elected C.D. Spangler as the 15th President of The University of North Carolina, a post he held for eleven years. During his tenure, Spangler was especially interested in the students. He habitually had lunch in Lenoir Hall where he would join a table for conversation. He has known personally more than 160 student body presidents from across the UNC System and eleven editors of the *Daily Tar Heel*. He was a champion of low tuition, and was committed to opening the University's doors wide to women and minorities.

C.D. Spangler's many honors include the Distinguished Eagle Scout Award (1994); honorary degrees from Queens College, Davidson College, and Furman University; the Board of Governors' University Award; the Distinguished Public Service Award of the North Carolina Citizens for Business and Industry; and the Alumni Achievement Award of the Harvard Business School. Among many other benefactions the Spangler Foundation has contributed generously toward the creation of 38 distinguished professorships within the University System, including the Raymond H. Dawson Bicentennial Distinguished Professorship of Political Science at Carolina.

In recognition of outstanding accomplishments in the business world and a distinguished career of public service to the people of North Carolina, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill is pleased to confer upon C. Dixon Spangler Jr. the degree of Doctor of Laws.