

PR 6

Office of the President
February 23, 2018

Members, Board of Trustees:

HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENTS

Recommendation: that the Board of Trustees approve awarding an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters to Thomas T. Hammond, an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters to Debra A. Hensley, an Honorary Doctor of Arts to Sara Louise Holroyd, and an Honorary Doctor of Science to Dr. Geoffrey T. Manley, as approved and recommended by the University Faculty.

Background: Pursuant to the Conditions of Merit for Honorary Degrees, the University Joint Committee on Honorary Degrees recommended to the elected Faculty Senators that the specified honorary degrees be awarded to Thomas T. Hammond, Debra A. Hensley, Sara Louise Holroyd, and Dr. Geoffrey T. Manley. The elected Faculty Senators have approved the recommendation.

Biographical sketches of the recipients are attached.

Action taken: Approved Disapproved Other _____

Thomas T. Hammond
Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters

Tom Hammond, who was born in Lexington, has had a long and distinguished sports broadcasting career in Kentucky and nationally. He grew up around the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, where his grandfather Thomas Poe Cooper served as dean and, at one point, UK's acting president. He followed in his grandfather's footsteps, receiving a degree in animal science with an emphasis in equine genetics from UK in 1967.

Hammond is recognized as one of the leading network sports broadcasters in the United States. His vast body of work includes covering Thoroughbred horse racing and play-by-play of the NBA, the WNBA, college basketball, gymnastics, figure skating and the Orange Bowl. He was the play-by-play voice for Notre Dame Football for 21 years.

Hammond is a fixture on NBC's Olympic Games coverage. At the Summer Games, he served as the chief commentator for track and field, a position he has held since the 1992 Summer Olympics in Barcelona. He also anchors other track and field events for NBC. At the Winter Olympics, he has been the main commentator for figure skating, ice dancing, and speed skating.

He joined NBC in 1984 for what was to have been a one-time appearance to call the Breeders' Cup, but that one-time assignment led to a full-time position. Ever since, he has been synonymous with the network's Thoroughbred racing coverage.

In 1984 and 1996, he earned horse racing's top honor, the Eclipse Award, and was awarded an Emmy for his coverage of the 1992 Breeders' Cup. He also won Emmys for coverage of men's and women's basketball in 1988, diving in 1992, and Olympic track and field in 1996.

He began his career with WVLK Radio as news and sports director. In 1970, and for the next 10 years, he was sports director for WLEX-TV. In 1980, he was named a play-by-play announcer for Southeastern Conference basketball games.

In the 1970s and 1980s, he served as a sales announcer at the Keeneland Thoroughbred Sales and at Thoroughbred horse sales in 16 other states. He is recognized as a specialist and national expert on Thoroughbred pedigrees. In the 1980s, he also had controlling interest in Hammond Communications, which produced two weekly racing shows.

He was the first recipient of the annual Outstanding Kentuckian Award given by the A.B. Chandler Foundation, is a charter member of the Lafayette High School Hall of Fame, and has been inducted into the Kentucky Journalism Hall of Fame. A member of the UK Hall of Distinguished Alumni, Hammond received its Hometown Hero Award. In 2012, he was named a UK Department of Animal and Food Sciences Distinguished Alumnus. The Bluegrass Sports Commission gives an

annual award in his honor: the Tom Hammond Lifetime Achievement Award is Sports Broadcasting.

For several years he served as master of ceremonies for UK's State of the University Address. He also serves on the board of directors for Thursday's Child, an organization that facilitates special needs adoptions. Hammond and his wife, Sheilagh, have funded a Singletary Scholarship at UK. Hammond currently is co-chair of the College of Agriculture, Food and Environment's campaign committee.

Thomas T. Hammond is recommended for an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from the University of Kentucky.

Debra A. Hensley
Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters

Debra A. Hensley has distinguished herself as a successful business owner, public servant, and community builder in Lexington.

She graduated from Franklin County High School, attended Eastern Kentucky University, and pursued a career in insurance, which began at Mutual of New York where she earned several designations including Chartered Life Underwriter and Life Underwriter Training Council. She started the Debra Hensley Agency of State Farm Insurance in 1978.

In the late 1970s and early 1980s, Hensley focused her volunteer and advocacy work toward improving the lives of women, children, and families. In those years, she served on the Board of Directors of the Salvation Army, YMCA, and Big Brothers/Big Sisters. She served as a Big Sister and was president of her neighborhood association in Lexington.

Her public service includes serving three terms on the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Council where she focused on social justice issues, affordable housing, and homelessness. During this time, she won her own battle against Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma cancer. Hensley was also campaign chairperson for Ernesto Scorsone who was elected to the House of Representatives. She worked on Pam Miller's Lexington council-at-large campaign and served as co-chair for Miller's mayoral campaign in 1997-98. Hensley was later appointed by Mayor Miller to the Board of Architectural Review 2001-2004.

Hensley's community service has made a huge impact on Lexington. She was instrumental in bringing Habitat for Humanity to Lexington along with the Golden "K" Kiwanis Club. As chair of the Task Force on Homelessness in Lexington in the early 1990s, she emerged as a leading force behind creation of the Hope Center to assist homeless and at-risk people. In recent years, she was appointed co-chair of the Mayor's Commission on Homelessness that advocates for innovative solutions to address the complex nature of homelessness.

She is the co-founder of Downtown Lexington Corporation, which promotes downtown as a unique and vibrant place in Lexington for business, residential life, and entertainment. She is the founder of Debra Hensley's Social Stimulus, which produces podcasts of unique individuals in the Bluegrass Region and hosts fundraising events featuring local "do good" businesses and organizations. She is past chair of The Kentucky Conference of Community & Justice. As a co-founder of JustFundKY, Hensley helped to create an endowment to fund efforts to eradicate discrimination against the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) community. She is also the founder and president of Lexington Community Radio, a nonprofit organization that launched two low-power FM stations that broadcast in English and Spanish and focus programming on public health and safety, local news, meaningful education, public-issue forums, cultural exchange, events, and entertainment.

A longtime supporter of the performing arts, Hensley has also performed in the plays *Love Letters*, *The Heidi Chronicles*, *The Kathy and Mo Show*, *The Search for Signs of Intelligent Life in the Universe*, and *The Vagina Monologues*.

Debra A. Hensley is recommended for an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from the University of Kentucky.

Sara Holroyd
Honorary Doctor of Arts

University of Kentucky Professor Emeritus Sara Holroyd is a trailblazer in the high school and collegiate ranks of music education. The retired music educator had her humble beginnings in the segregated city of Selma, Alabama during the 1940s. After working her way through Vanderbilt's George Peabody College for Teachers, she returned to Alabama to become a high school choir and band director. After successful pursuit of her graduate work at Columbia University's Teachers College and Indiana University, her academic career journeyed through several successful career progressions — eventually becoming one of only two female collegiate choral conductors in the entire United States during her tenure at UK.

During her tenure at the University of Kentucky School of Music from 1962-1987, Holroyd held the positions of Professor of Music Education and director of Choral Activities, The Madrigal Singers, Women's Glee Club, Chorus, Choristers, and Chorale.. In 1987, she retired at age 62 and immediately entered nursing school at Lexington Community College, the former Bluegrass Community and Technical College. She became an ER nurse on the 3rd shift at age 64 and worked at St Joseph Hospital in Lexington until she retired, a second time, at age 71.

Former director of the UK School of Music, Dr. Bernard Fitzgerald, asked Holroyd to come to UK while she was working on her Ph.D. at Indiana University. She postponed her doctoral studies and joined the faculty in 1961 as an Assistant Professor of Music Education. She was tasked with teaching music education, directing the intramural Women's Glee Club, and directing The Madrigal Singers.

Holroyd received many prestigious awards: The UK Alumni Association Great Teacher Award, Delta Zeta Woman of the Year Award, and Outstanding Woman Faculty Member by the

Association of Women Students. In 1998, she won the Carl A. Lampert Award, which inducted her into the UK School of Music Hall of Fame. In 2015, a “Tribute to Sara Holroyd” was produced by UK and Room 17 Productions, Inc., reuniting many of her students from three decades of teaching to sing selections highlighting the music of Kentucky. In 2018, she received the Lexington Music Award’s Lifetime Achievement Award for her dedication to Kentucky music.

Her faculty papers were donated to the UK Special Collections and Research Center. The Sara Holroyd Oral History Project resides in the UK Louie B. Nunn Center for Oral History. Both facilities hold memories, stories, and live recording performances of some of her many accomplishments and collaborations.

For 26 years, Professor Holroyd taught, inspired, and changed the lives of thousands of students who studied music and voice under the direction of her baton. After retiring from the University of Kentucky and chasing a long-desired career goal of working in the medical field, Holroyd was equipped and empowered to combine both of her skillsets in music and medicine to comfort, calm, and heal patients and families during times of great personal stress.

Sara Holroyd is recommended for an honorary Doctor of Arts from the University of Kentucky.

Geoffrey Manley
Honorary Doctor of Science

In 1976, Geoffrey Manley was a high school sophomore in a single-parent household from an extended family that had no experience with college. He dropped out of high school and began earning a solid income as a foreign-car mechanic where his unusual aptitude caught the attention of one of his clients, University of Kentucky former Biology Chair Sheldon Steiner. He recognized Manley’s talents and encouraged him to obtain his GED, enroll in community college, and transfer to UK where Manley went on to work in Steiner’s lab. Steiner further encouraged Manley to pass up offers from medical schools at UK and the University of Louisville to instead apply for combined M.D.–Ph.D. programs available at some of the most prestigious schools in the country, including Cornell University Graduate School of Medical Sciences, where Manley ultimately enrolled.

Since those unlikely dozen years from a high school drop-out to a bachelor's degree from UK, Manley went on to become an internationally recognized expert in neurotrauma. He currently serves as chief of Neurosurgery at San Francisco General Hospital as a practicing trauma neurosurgeon and director of the Brain and Spinal Injury Center that he founded. He is also a professor of neurosurgery at the University of California San Francisco.

He has published more than 120 manuscripts that reflect a wide range of research interests from molecular aspects of brain injury to the clinical care of head trauma patients. He also serves as vice chairman of the Department of Neurosurgery at UCSF and serves on the Scientific Advisory Board for the Brain Trauma Foundation, as well as serving on the Executive Committee for the International Neurotrauma Society.

Manley was instrumental in writing the guidelines that all neurosurgeons utilize for managing patients with traumatic brain injury sponsored through the American Association of Neurological Surgeons and the Congress of Neurological Surgeons. He has also participated in the International Consensus Conferences on Concussion in Sports and has been appointed to the prestigious General Electric/NFL Medical Advisory Board. In 2009, he served as the president of the National Neurotrauma Society, and currently serves on the Department of Defense Traumatic Brain Injury Research Steering Committee. He has been extraordinarily successful in mentoring a number of physicians and scientists since being an attending faculty member at UCSF, and he has helped define new molecular mechanisms of injury to the nervous system that may lead to new treatments for these devastating injuries.

Dr. Manley is also considered a leader in the rapidly growing field of advanced neuromonitoring and clinical informatics for critical care. His honors include the General Motors Trauma Research Award and the Trauma Research Award from the American College of Surgeons. He has served as a consultant for the Prehospital Guidelines Committee for the World Health Organization and for a number of committees for the National Institutes of Health.

In addition to saving the lives of patients with traumatic brain and spinal injuries, Dr. Manley has been a source of inspiration and leadership in his field.

Geoffrey Manley is recommended for an honorary Doctor of Science from the University of Kentucky.