

# University of Delaware Honorary Degree

**JEFFREY D. SACHS**  
DOCTOR OF SCIENCE  
*honoris causa*

**Esteemed educator**, you earned bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees in economics at Harvard University and then went on to teach at your alma mater, distinguishing yourself at age 28 as one of the youngest tenured professors in the university's history.

After a stellar 20-year career at Harvard, you moved to Columbia University, where you are Quetelet Professor of Sustainable Development and Health Policy and Management, and Director of the Earth Institute, with its 850 scientists, staff members, postdoctoral fellows, and students working across more than 30 Columbia-based research centers and programs to solve problems in public health, poverty, energy, climate, and sustainable development.

**Trusted economic advisor**, you are widely considered to be one of the world's leading experts on economic development and the fight against poverty. In the 1980s, you helped Bolivia to escape its 25,000 percent inflation and restore a stable economy. From there, you went on to advise Poland and other former communist countries on their transition to a market economy.

In 1995 you traveled for the first time to sub-Saharan Africa and witnessed the appalling poverty and deprivation there. It was then that you began your focus on using economics and other disciplines to find solutions to extreme poverty and its attendant problems through research, education, and intervention.

Your work has taken you to more than 125 countries with more than 90 percent of the world's population. You have advised dozens of heads of state and governments in the Americas, Europe, Asia, Africa, and the Middle East. You are Special Advisor to U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on the Millennium Development Goals, having held the same position under the former U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan.

You have worked closely as well with dozens of international organizations, including the African Union, the Asian Development Bank, the World Health Organization, and the World Food Programme.

*The New York Times* called you "probably the most important economist in the world," and a survey by *The Economist* ranked you as among the world's three most influential living economists.

**Prolific author**, you have penned hundreds of articles and seven books, three of which have been on *The New York Times*' best-seller list. Your syndicated monthly column is read in more than 100 countries. You are spreading your knowledge about the challenges our world faces and your recommendations on how we can overcome them, and people are listening.

**Passionate advocate for global change**, you direct the Millennium Villages Project, which takes a holistic, community-led approach to sustainable development to address the root causes of extreme poverty. To fund and direct those efforts, you co-founded and are Chief Strategist of Millennium Promise Alliance. Your travel and speaking schedule is relentless, as you advocate for money, policy changes, and the world's attention on the pressing problems of sustainable development and extreme poverty.

Nelson Mandela once said that "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." Jeffrey Sachs, whether you are seeking donors, working with village leaders, or advocating with governments and international organizations, you are, at heart, an educator. You have not only changed the world, but you have also made it your mission to educate others to do the same.

Therefore, under the authority of the Board of Trustees of the University of Delaware, I have the pleasure and honor of conferring upon you, Jeffrey D. Sachs, the degree of Doctor of Science, *honoris causa*, and do declare you entitled to all the rights, honors, and privileges to that degree appertaining throughout the world. In testimony thereof, I am pleased to present to you this diploma.

*A. Gilchrist Sparks III*  
May 30, 2015