

# Doctor of Laws, honoris causa

July 13, 2005

Liz Sheehy

Treasurer, may I present to you and this Convocation Professor Elizabeth Sheehy, LL.B. (Osgoode), LL.M. (Columbia) and request that you confer upon her the degree of Doctor of Laws, honoris causa.

This degree is given to those who have made significant contributions to the legal profession. Elizabeth Sheehy's career exemplifies this criterion. As an author, she has produced path-breaking, internationally recognized scholarly works in the field of feminist analysis of criminal law with a focus on violence against women. These works have transformed legal thinking and shattered existing stereotypes. In doing so, they have contributed to the renewal of the legal profession through their promotion of equality and access to justice.

As a professor and mentor, Elizabeth Sheehy has inspired her students with her innovative teaching skills, her deep sense of caring and her incredible honesty. She instils within her students both knowledge and a sense of ethics, which ensures the continuing growth of the profession.

Always cognizant of the necessity of remembering that the law cannot exist only on a theoretical level, Elizabeth Sheehy has worked tirelessly with feminist activist and social reform movements. Her unwavering legal, political and personal support is never forgotten by those she seeks to assist. Elizabeth Sheehy's efforts honour the core mandate of her profession, which is to assist "fellow subjects as the situation may require."

Professor Elizabeth Sheehy is deserving of the highest honour this Society can give and I request you, Sir, to confer upon her the degree of Doctor of Laws, honoris causa.