

**Citation for Stephen F. Gormley '72, P'06, P'09, P'11**  
**Presented by Paul Franco, Barry N. Wish Professor of Government and Social Studies**  
**May 2023**

Stephen F. Gormley, businessman and philanthropist, we honor you today for your innovative spirit in the field of finance and for your remarkable generosity and service to various organizations, most notably this College.

Born in Houlton, Maine, you grew up amid the potato farms of Aroostook County. Matriculating at Bowdoin in 1968, you majored in government and legal studies, played on the golf team, and graduated (along with Barry Mills) in 1972. After working for a few years at First National Bank of Boston, you went on to earn an MBA at Columbia University in 1978. You then joined Tucker Anthony Associates in Boston, a leading firm in the early days of venture capital. In 1986, you cofounded Media Communications Partners (now known as M/C Partners), a private equity firm focused exclusively on media and telecommunications. And in 1999, you cofounded another private equity firm, Great Hill Partners, where you were responsible for general management and investment policy until your retirement in 2011.

Outside of a remarkably successful business career, you have given generously of your time and money to Bowdoin. You served on Bowdoin's board of trustees from 2001 to 2021 and as chair of the board from 2010 to 2013. But that's just the beginning. In addition to chairing the Financial Planning Committee from 2005 to 2008, you served on the Admissions and Financial Aid, Audit, Governance, Development and College Relations, Facilities and Properties, Gift Acceptance, Information Technology Advisory, Investment, Resources, and Student Affairs Committees. You were also a member of the Campaign Planning and Steering Committees for the Bowdoin Campaign and chaired your Reunion Gift Committee. In 2009, you established the Gormley Career Services Endowment to support the operations of the College's Career Service Center (now Career Exploration and Development, or CXD). Not forgetting your roots, you have established and supported several scholarship funds for students from Aroostook County and around Maine.

As impressive as these contributions to your alma mater are, you are no doubt most proud of having three daughters graduate from Bowdoin: Margaret in 2006, Kate in 2009, and Caroline in 2011. For all these contributions, we are most grateful.

President Rose, on behalf of the College, I am honored to present Stephen F. Gormley for the degree of Doctor of Humane Letters, *honoris causa*.