

CHAMINADE UNIVERSITY OF HONOLULU
Board of Regents
November 16, 2007

Resolution

Reverend Donald P. Merrifield, S.J., a distinguished scholar and university president, has dedicated his life to Catholic higher education and has left a personal legacy at Loyola Marymount University and other places where he has served.

He received his Bachelor of Science degree in physics from the California Institute of Technology, and after graduation, he joined the Society of Jesus. He has several advanced degrees including a doctorate degree in physics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

From 1961 to 1969, he taught physics at Loyola University and at the University of San Francisco; he was a consultant in theoretical chemistry at Jet Propulsion Laboratory at the California Institute of Technology; and a lecturer in the Engineering School at the University of Santa Clara. In 1969, he became president of Loyola University. During his tenure, he guided the University through a number of changes and developments and played a significant role in the merger of Marymount College and Loyola University. In 1984, Fr. Merrifield stepped down as president and was appointed chancellor, a role that enabled him to continue his successful fundraising for the University. In September 2002, after 33 years of service, he retired from Loyola Marymount University to devote his time to parish and spiritual ministries in Hawaii.

He continues to contribute his talents in behalf of Catholic higher education as friend, advisor, and member of the Board of Regents at Chaminade University.

In Hawaii, he also worked with Hispanic ministries for the Diocese of Honolulu, prison ministries, and feeding ministry to the homeless.

Fr. Merrifield has had a long and distinguished career as a leader in Catholic higher education and Chaminade University wishes to recognize his many substantial contributions, his generous service and his wise leadership by awarding him the Degree of Humane Letters.

Be it resolved that the Board of Regents of Chaminade University confer upon Reverend Donald P. Merrifield, S.J., the Degree of Doctor of Humane Letters, Honoris Causa.