

CONCORD COLLEGE  
Athens, West Virginia

CITATION

B R A N D B L A N S H A R D  
Doctor of Letters

BRAND BLANSHARD, brilliant teacher, renowned author, and a member of the world's community of scholars, you have had an illustrious career seeking that unity in diversity which philosophers alone can provide. In our age of thinking machines and mechanical thinking, you have given us a distinctively humanistic work, The Nature of Thought; in our age of analysis, you have called for the integration of knowledge; and in your teaching, you have emphasized "the common preserve of universal human interests" so often lost in existential moans and linguistic calibrations. Long have you exemplified that reasonableness and that habit of detached and critical reflection belonging to the philosophic spirit, which can protect us, to use your own words, "Against the partisan slogans, the Pollyanna faiths, the self-righteous nationalisms of our time, the nightmare art, the beatnik poetry, the erotic stage, the violent television, the perpetual adolescence of the screen." Born in Ohio, educated at the University of Michigan, Columbia University and Harvard University, a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford, a Guggenheim Fellow, a professor at Swarthmore and Yale, a distinguished lecturer in this country and abroad, an honorary alumnus of six colleges and universities -- surely a good sweep befitting any peripatetic philosopher --, today Concord College is pleased to honor you, and confers upon you her degree of Doctor of Letters.

In testimony of this degree I hand you this diploma and cause you to be invested with this hood.

Given under the Seal of Concord College, and conferred from the academic halls in Athens, West Virginia, on this twenty-seventh day of May in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred sixty-two, and of the College the eighty-seventh.

Joseph Franklin Marsh, Jr.  
President