

DR. CHIEN-SHIUNG WU

Today, Dr. Chien-Shiung Wu, we honor you as one of the world's foremost experimental physicists and as a woman physicist without parallel. A major contribution to this reputation was your decisive experiment upsetting the fundamental physical law of parity conservation. It was as a result of this work that you were the first woman to receive the Comstock Award of the National Academy of Sciences, which is given only once in five years for the most important discovery or investigation in electricity, magnetism, or radiant energy.

Your research, which has been varied and far-reaching, has more recently led you to study sickle-cell anemia, a hereditary hemoglobin disorder which primarily afflicts members of the Negro race. Using the techniques of nuclear physics, you have demonstrated a genuine concern for improving the human condition.

In addition to your distinguished research and your recognized publications, you have given careful attention to your students at Smith College, Princeton, and now Columbia, and over the years have imparted to them the importance of their having a concern for the impact of scientific work on society. It is because of your preeminence as an experimental physicist, your excellence as a teacher, and your belief that a scientist must be concerned with basic human values, that we take great pleasure in recognizing you today.

And now, by virtue of the authority vested in me as President of Russell Sage College, I admit you to the honorary degree of Doctor of Science, with all the rights and privileges pertaining thereto, in token of which I present you with this diploma, cause the appropriate hood to be placed upon your shoulders, and ask that your name be inscribed upon the list of honorary alumna of the College.

Charles U. Walker

May 28, 1971