

Central

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY

A private university in the public service

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John Sexton

President

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EXECUTIVE OFFICE
OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

June 23, 2014

Confidential

Mr. Ban Ki-moon
Secretary-General of the United Nations
United Nations Plaza
First Avenue at 46th Street
New York, NY 10017

Dear Mr. Secretary-General:

As President of New York University, I have the honor and privilege on behalf of the Board of Trustees to invite you to receive the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws to be offered at the University's Commencement Exercises on Wednesday, May 20, 2015.

On this occasion, our community of 30,000 graduates, parents, and friends will gather for our 183rd commencement ceremony, and I am delighted to report that we will hold these exercises for the eighth consecutive year in the spectacular venue of Yankee Stadium.

NYU, a major research institution and one of the world's largest private universities, seeks to honor individuals whose careers demonstrate extraordinary achievement, personal integrity, and a desire to engage with wider communities around the nation and the world. In all of these ways, Mr. Secretary-General, you have through your long and distinguished career of public service earned our admiration and respect.

Even as you know us as a community deeply engaged in the creation of a truly global university, we appreciate your exceptional leadership at the United Nations in confronting some of the world's most intractable challenges—climate change, poverty, the status of women, public health, and the need to develop global disaster-response efforts. We also applaud the

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effective measures you have taken to strengthen the transparency and efficiency of the UN itself.

Moreover, you are no stranger to our community. NYU has been proud to serve since 2005 as a founding member of the Global Colloquium of University Presidents and twice hosted its meetings. On both of these occasions you have lent your strong leadership and attention.

As part of this invitation, we would require your presence at the special dinner for the honorary degree recipients hosted by the Board on the evening preceding the commencement exercises, Tuesday, May 19, 2015. We sincerely hope that it will also be possible for your special guests to join us on both of these occasions.

Further, the officers of the university who are charged with preparing news for the press would be pleased to work with members of your staff on appropriate media announcements.

It would give me great joy, institutionally and personally, to confer upon you an honorary degree in recognition of your achievements. I look forward to hearing from you.

With my warmest regards.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "John Sexton", with a large, stylized loop at the bottom.

John Sexton

JS/df