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**Citation for Adriano la Regina  
Doctor of Humane Letters, Honoris Causa  
May 26, 2006**

Adriano La Regina, you are a successful and world renowned archaeologist, expert in Etruscology and Italic antiquities and your work as Rome's superintendent for the conservation of the city's artistic and archaeological patrimony – covering a span of 28 years – is admired internationally.

Born in Naples, you received your education in an international setting from the very beginning. After your classical studies in Rome you went on to receive a Laurea in Lettere from the University of Rome 'La Sapienza'. You also studied the Chinese language for a period of time and spent a year studying ancient history in Oxford University in England.

You promoted and participated in publications and studies with a view to ensuring the diffusion of the results of research and conservation activities in Rome over a period of twenty years. This led to the involvement of Italian universities and foreign institutions in the research and study of the monumental complex of the Roman Forum and the Palatine which has now become the principal seat of international archaeological activity.

Under your guidance the vast quantity of art works in the National Roman Museum (one of the most important in the world) found new homes. You acquired and restored buildings like Palazzo Altemps, Palazzo Massimo alle Terme, Crypta Balbi, the Baths of Diocletian and the Palatine Museum. Palazzo Altemps itself has become a place where ancient sculpture has found a home in a renaissance and post renaissance setting – a way of creating a bridge between the centuries.

You have also organized many exhibitions in the curia of the Roman Forum and more recently at the Colosseum – which is the first time the latter has been inserted in the international circuit for exhibitions.

It is difficult to list all your awards and affiliations – to mention a few:

You are a member of the Societa Magna Grecia, the Istituto Archeologico Germanico, an associate of the pontifical Accademia of Archaeology and the Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei.

The president of Finland conferred upon you the award of Commandeur de l'Orde du Lion de Finland and in 2003 you received the 'Premio Campidoglio per la Cultura.'

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Abruzzi and Molise have benefited from your work and studies. As the world expert on the Sannites – you organized the restoration of the Hellenistic Theatre of Pietrabbondante.

When you were Superintendent of Roman Antiquities - a position first held by the painter Raphael – you felt the huge responsibility for protecting a city which has come down to us through the centuries. A city which has lived through many changes and events –battles, pillage, fires and destruction.

Against much opposition you strove to protect the integrity of Rome as a city. Your sensitivity and vast culture ensured that you were able to find the true pulse of this city and consequently find the key to preserving it for Italy and all mankind.

We also particularly appreciate that your office has always facilitated our students as they study the patrimony of Rome's cultural assets.

Now you are continuing your work – both on a practical and the academic level – as Chair of Etruscology and Italic Antiquities at the University of Rome 'La Sapienza', as President of the Istituto Nazionale di Archeologia e Storia dell Arte and President of Zetema-Progetto Cultura.

The American University of Rome is honored to confer upon you this Honorary Degree.

By virtue of the authority vested in me by the Licensure Commission of the District of Columbia and the Board of Trustees of The American University of Rome, I do hereby confer upon you, Adriano la Regina, the degree of Doctor Humane Letters Honoris Causa.

Robert A. Marino, Ph.D.  
President  
The American University of Rome