

Honorary Degree Recipient, May 2007

Larry J. Gordon, *Doctor of Humane Letters*

Larry J. Gordon, an environmental health visionary, will receive the Doctor of Humane Letters for his long-term commitment and leadership in the areas of environmental and public health.

He earned his bachelor's and master's degrees in science from UNM and a master of public health degree from the University of Michigan School of Public Health.

Gordon is known throughout the country as one of the great leaders of environmental health. He founded and directed the Albuquerque-Bernalillo County Environmental Health Department, the New Mexico Environmental Improvement Agency and the New Mexico Scientific Laboratory System and subsequently served as New Mexico cabinet secretary for health and environment. He was also active as an officer in the U.S. Public Health Service.

Gordon served as president of the 55,000-member American Public Health Association. He presented or published more than 240 papers profoundly affecting the field of environmental and public health. The university was well served by Gordon's tireless public service efforts. He was a senior fellow for the Institute for Public Policy and adjunct professor in the School of Public Administration and Political Science Department. Throughout his career, he mentored scores of environmental health practitioners who subsequently achieved eminence.