



Ambassador Donna Hrinak (B.A. in multidisciplinary social sciences, 1972), was awarded an honorary doctor of humanities degree at MSU's fall 2006 graduation ceremonies. In this photo, Provost Kim Wilcox (left) and Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies Ian Gray adjust her hood.

Former Ambassador to Brazil Awarded Honorary MSU Degree

Donna J. Hrinak, a graduate of MSU and former U.S. ambassador to four Latin American countries, was honored at MSU's fall 2006 graduation ceremonies with the conferral of an honorary doctor of humanities degree.

Most recently ambassador to Brazil (2002–04), she also held the post in Venezuela (2000–02), Bolivia (1998–2000) and the Dominican Republic (1994–98). She was the first woman to serve as U.S. ambassador in each of those countries.

Hrinak's foreign service career, which began in 1974, also included assignments in Colombia, Honduras, Mexico, and Poland. In Washington, D.C., she served as deputy assistant secretary of state for Mexico and the Caribbean (1991–94).

In April 2006, Hrinak joined Kraft Foods, Inc., where she is director of corporate and government affairs in Kraft's Latin American headquarters in Miami. She came to Kraft from the international advisory firm of Kissinger McLarty Associates,

Washington, D.C., where she was senior director. Prior to that position, she served as co-chairperson of the International Trade & Competition practice group at the law firm of Steel, Hector & Davis in Miami.

Previously, she received the College of Social Science Outstanding Alumni Award and the MSU Distinguished Alumni Award, both in 2001, and she has visited the campus on several other occasions.

In addition to her many public service awards, she was named 2005 Businesswoman of the Year by the Miami chapter of Women in International Trade. In 1985, she was named by *Glamour* magazine as one of America's Ten Outstanding Young Working Women.

Hrinak graduated from MSU in 1972 with a B.A. in multidisciplinary social sciences. She also attended George Washington University and the University of Notre Dame School of Law.

Homecoming Events Target International Constituencies

For the first time, ISP hosted a homecoming tent party on September 30 for alumni with international connections or experiences, particularly targeting ones who had participated in study abroad programs while at MSU. Also attending was a visiting delegation of alumni from Thailand, who braved soggy weather to participate in the festivities.

On the other side of the stadium, outside the International Center, a traditional tailgate event was held for the second time, primarily catering to current international students, visiting scholars, and their families. Local returned Peace Corps volunteers, many of whom are current MSU faculty members or graduate students, also gathered for food and conversation.

The turnout for both events was good in spite of the inclement weather, which cleared enough to allow guests who were not attending the game to play a bit of football themselves.

Staff from the ISP Dean's Office, the Office for International Students and Scholars, the Office of Study Abroad, and the Visiting International Professional Program served as hosts.



At Right: ISP Dean Jeffrey Riedinger greets a visitor from Thailand at the homecoming tent party.