I.B.8 – CITY COLLEGE – HONORARY DEGREE TO BE AWARDED IN THE SPRING OF 2015

RESOLVED, that the City College of New York award Mr. Michael Pope, P.E., J.D., the degree of Doctor of Science, honoris causa at a special event hosted by the City College of New York in Spring 2015.

EXPLANATION: Mr. Pope graduated from City College in 1944 with a Bachelor’s degree in electrical engineering. Following his service in the Navy, Mr. Pope began a successful career as an engineer and became Partner and Chief Designer at Myers, Addington, and Pope, Consulting Engineers. In 1954, Mr. Pope started his own firm and served as Founder, Partner and CEO of Pope Evans and Robbins, Inc. for more than 30 years before establishing his second consulting engineering firm, Robbins, Pope and Griffis, P.C. Consulting Engineers for which he served as President until his retirement in 2004. Mr. Pope is a recognized authority in the power plant field and a renowned specialist in fossil fuel fired plants of all types. He is a two-time recipient of the “Men of the Year,” McGraw-Hill’s Engineering News Record, for Service to the Construction Industry (1973 and 1979) and recipient of the Award of Honor from the American Consulting Engineers Council for developing Fluidized Bed Combustion Technology (1979).
Michael Pope, P.E., J.D.
Alumnus – Bachelor’s Degree in Electrical Engineering, 1944

Mr. Pope is an alumnus and graduated City College in 1944 with a Bachelor’s degree in electrical engineering. Upon graduating, Mr. Pope served in the U.S. Navy as Lieutenant of Maritime Service. Following his service in the Navy, he began a successful career as an engineer working as a staff engineer with Myers, Addington, and Pope, Consulting Engineers. By 1951, he moved up to Partner and Chief Designer at Myers, Addington, and Pope, Consulting Engineers. In 1954, Mr. Pope founded his own consulting engineering firm with his fellow CCNY classmate, Joseph E. Robbins, and served as Founder, Partner and CEO of Pope Evans and Robbins, Inc. for more than 30 years before leaving to join Parsons Brinckerhoff Development Corporation as New Project Development, President. From there, he moved into the position of Plant Specialties, President at Aegis Corporation, Designers and Manufacturers of Power. In 1989, Mr. Pope established his second consulting engineering firm, Robbins, Pope and Griffis, P.C. Consulting Engineers where he served as President until his retirement in 2004.

With 50 years of experience in every aspect of power plant equipment specification, design and supervision of construction, Mr. Pope is a recognized authority in the power plant field and a renowned specialist in fossil fuel fired plants of all types. He is a two-time recipient of the “Men of the Year,” McGraw-Hill’s Engineering News Record, for Service to the Construction Industry (1973 and 1979) and recipient of the Award of Honor from the American Consulting Engineers Council for developing Fluidized Bed Combustion Technology (1979). City College has honored him with the Presidential Medal (1979), Townsend Harris Medal (1983) and David Steinman Medal (1981) from CCNY, for Exemplary Contributions to the Engineering Field (Fluidized Bed Combustion technology).

Not one to rest on his laurels, in 2000, at the age of 76, Mr. Pope went back to school to earn a Doctorate of Law from Cardozo School of Law. Since 2000, he has negotiated prime and sub-contractor contracts, and helped settle countless construction related disputes involving detailed technical and financial analyses. Trained as a mediator by the Institute for Transformative Mediation and the former New York Mediation Group, Mr. Pope is an expert witness and arbitrator/mediator specializing in power plants.

A true renaissance man, Mr. Pope understands the value of a well-rounded education and has worked tirelessly to support the ongoing success of his alma mater, City College. A founding member of the Board of Directors of the City College Fund, he has helped guide the Fund and support City College for more than 40 years. In addition to his involvement with the City College Fund, he is an active member of
the Advisory Board of the School of Engineering, serving as Chair of the Board from 1983-1987. Mr. Pope is also one of the biggest supporters of the College’s Energy Institute. Most recently, he established the Endowed Pope Chair in Energy to assure that the Energy Center is able to attract the best and brightest faculty members in the field.

Through his leadership and his generosity, Mr. Pope has created a long-lasting legacy at the College. His long-lasting commitment to the College has had a great impact in the life of the College and has benefitted countless CCNY students.

Michael Pope, CCNY Class of 1944, is a true son of City College and a prime example of what has been called “the greatest generation.” A proud alumnus of the City College of New York, he has committed his life to the betterment of our nation, City and the City College of New York.