

**IN HONOR OF PROFESSOR JAGDISH BHAGWATI
ON THE OCCASION OF HIS 70TH BIRTHDAY AND FESTSCHRIFT**

I am extremely sorry not to be able to attend the festschrift conference and gala for Professor Jagdish Bhagwati. I have a longstanding family commitment that will keep me from celebrating his extraordinary talents and attributes in person. Nonetheless, I am sure that all of those present will make their best attempt to appropriately applaud the enormous intellectual contributions of this great man and exceptional mind.

Jagdish is among the most distinguished professors at Columbia University, a position that he has held since first arriving here 25 years ago. His role at Columbia is augmented by his many other roles as an academic statesman: Senior Fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations, External Adviser to the WTO, member of UN Secretary General Kofi Annan's Advisory Group on the NEPAD process in Africa. We at Columbia are extremely fortunate to have one of the world's finest scholars and most passionate advocates for the understanding of immigration and international trade in our midst. I personally admire Jagdish's truly extraordinary capacity to combine research on questions of deep theory with matters of enormous practical importance to individuals and societies across the globe.

For all of his academic accolades, there are an equal number of personal attributes that should be recognized. Jagdish is a beloved teacher and an inspiring colleague. This is evident not only in the large number of guests who are attending this celebration, but in the work done to organize this festschrift by Columbia University Professor Arvind Panagariya, the Bhagwati Chair in Indian Political Economy, along with Robert Feenstra and Doug Irwin, two former students of Jagdish and distinguished alumni of Columbia University.

Jagdish continues to be a friend to both Jean and me, and we wish him well on this extremely happy occasion. I hope he will take justified pride in the applause generated by the festschrift.

Sincerely,

Lee C. Bollinger
President