



SCHOLARSHIP IN HONOR OF

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**ROBERT C. SEAMANS**

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# Robert C. Seamans

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**D**r. Robert C. Seamans, Jr., became Secretary of the Air Force on February 15, 1969 and served until May 14, 1973. Prior to his appointment as Secretary, he was the Jerome Clarke Hunsaker Professor, a Massachusetts Institute of Technology (M.I.T.) endowed visiting professorship in the Department of Aeronautics and Astronautics in honor of the founder of the Aeronautical Engineering Department of M.I.T. He also was a consultant to the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

Dr. Seamans has been active in the fields of missiles and aeronautics since 1941. From 1941 to 1955 he held teaching and project-management positions at M.I.T.

In 1960 he joined NASA as Associate Administrator and then became Deputy Administrator.

From 1948 to 1959, he served on technical committees of NASA's predecessor organization, the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics. He served as a consultant to the Scientific Advisory Board of the Air Force from 1957 to 1959, as a member of the board from 1959 to 1962, and as an associate advisor from 1962 to 1967.

Dr. Seamans was born on October 30, 1918, in Salem, Massachusetts. He attended the Lenox School, Lenox, Mass.; earned a bachelor of science degree in engineering at Harvard University in 1939; and at M.I.T. a master of science degree in aeronautics in 1942, and a doctor of science degree in instrumentation in 1951. He has received honorary doctor of science degrees from Rollins College and New York University, and honorary degree of doctor of engineering from Norwich University, Northfield, Vt.

From 1941 to 1955 he held teaching and research positions at M.I.T. during which time he worked on aeronautical developments for instrumentation and control of airplanes and missiles. Dr. Seamans joined Radio Corporation of America (RCA) in 1955, and in 1958 became Chief Engineer of the Missile Electronics and Control Division at RCA in Burlington, Massachusetts, a position he held until joining NASA in September 1960. Dr. Seamans joined NASA as Associate Administrator with responsibilities for research and development programs, field laboratories, assembling and launching facilities, and a worldwide network of tracking stations. From December 1965 until January 1968 he was Deputy Administrator of NASA retaining many of the management responsibilities of his prior position.

After serving at NASA for more than seven years, Dr. Seamans resigned in January 1968 to become a visiting professor at M.I.T., and in July 1968 he was appointed to the Jerome Clarke Hunsaker Professorship.

Dr. Seamans was the first Administrator of the Energy Research and Development Administration (ERDA). He took office at ERDA in December 1974, after serving as President of the National Academy of Engineering, a post to which he was elected in May 1973.

Dr. Robert C. Seamans, Jr. became Henry R. Luce Professor of Environment and Public Policy at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in July of 1977. He was appointed Dean of Engineering in July 1978, and served in that post until September 1983.

Dr. Seamans is married to the former Eugenia A. Merrill. They have five children.

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A listing of Dr. Seamans' professional affiliations, awards, and honorary degrees includes: Board Memberships: Aerospace Corporation (Chairman of the Board); Alliance to Save Energy; Johnny Appleseed's, Inc.; Carnegie Institution of Washington; Combustion Engineering, Inc.; Charles Stark Draper Laboratory, Inc.; Eli Lilly and Company; M.I.T. Energy Laboratory (Chairman of the Advisory Board); Massachusetts Technology Development Corporation; Museum of Science; National Geographic Society; Pneumo Corporation; The Putnam Funds; Woods Hole

Oceanographic Institution. Professional Memberships : American Academy of Arts and Sciences; American Association for the Advancement of Science; American Astronautical Society; American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, Honorary Fellow; American Philosophical Society; American Society for Public Administration; Council on Foreign Relations; Foreign Policy Association; Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers, Fellow; International Academy of Astronautics; National Academy of Engineering; National Space Club ; New York Academy of Sciences; The Society of the Sigma XI; Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution.

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*The Falcon Foundation*

*It is a pleasure for the Gertrude Skelly Trust to establish scholarships in honor of Secretaries of the United States Air Force. Their outstanding civilian leadership through the years has been a key to the strength of our Nation's military posture. It is only fitting that these leaders be recognized and honored by the award, each year, of scholarships to deserving sons or daughters of career military personnel who will become the future leaders in our Air Force.*

*It is our privilege to establish this scholarship, in perpetuity, honoring Dr. Robert C. Seamans, Jr., Secretary of the United States Air Force (15 February 1969 to 14 May 1973).*

*Sincerely,*

*Gertrude Skelly Trust*

*J. Lynn P. Stewart*  
*Trustee*

*John R. Mand Jr*  
*Trustee*

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