

ACADEMIC REGULATION A8: HONORARY AWARDS

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the award of honorary degrees is (a) to recognise significant achievement by individuals, and in particular achievements that promote the same values and objectives as those that are held by the University; and (b) to enhance the standing of the University through its association with those to whom the awards are made.

The University will not necessarily award honorary degrees during each academic year or for each graduation. It is intended that the conferring of the awards will allow the University to make a strong statement about its own mission and values, and that the decision to do so does not have the appearance of something routine.

The University will not award an honorary degree to serving politicians or heads of state.

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REGULATION

1. HONORARY AWARDS

- 1.1 The criteria for the awards of honorary degrees of the University are that those selected should have achieved distinction in education, industry, business, culture, arts, creative work, the community, peace and reconciliation, or public service. Such distinction may often involve a significant contribution to scholarship or learning, though other achievements may also be recognised, particularly where these have benefited education or innovation. Other considerations may include the fact that their achievements have a particular relevance to the University's mission, and that they represent good role models for the University's students.

The degrees which may be awarded are:

Doctor of Business Administration	DBA (<i>honoris causa</i>)
Doctor of Design	DDes (<i>honoris causa</i>)
Doctor of Education	DEd (<i>honoris causa</i>)
Doctor of Laws	LLD (<i>honoris causa</i>)
Doctor of Letters	DLitt (<i>honoris causa</i>)
Doctor of Music	DMus (<i>honoris causa</i>)
Doctor of Philosophy	DPhil (<i>honoris causa</i>)
Doctor of Science	DSc (<i>honoris causa</i>)
Doctor of Technology	DTech (<i>honoris causa</i>)

Such awards may also be conferred posthumously in accordance with [Regulation A4: Assessment and Recommendations of Assessment Boards](#), paragraph 15.

Recipients of an honorary degree may use the approved post-nominal letters. It is not customary, however for recipients of an honorary doctorate to adopt the prefix 'Dr'.

1.2 The award of honorary Master of the University (MUniv (*honoris causa*)) may be made to:

- graduates who have made a major contribution in their discipline or profession in the early stages of their careers, and can be posed as an example and role model to our current students;
- members of the University's staff, academic and non-academic, and people who have worked closely with the University, who have made a particular contribution to the life and development of the institution, where the impact has been local rather than national.

2. HONORARY DEGREES COMMITTEE

- 2.1 The Honorary Degrees Committee shall be convened in accordance with [Organisational Regulation O4: Standing Committees of Academic Council, Schedule 4.2: Honorary Degrees Committee](#).
- 2.2 The Committee shall have full delegated authority from Academic Council to receive and consider nominations for the award of honorary degrees and honorary masters.
- 2.3 The business of the Committee shall be confidential to its members.

3. PROCEDURE FOR CONSIDERING NOMINATIONS

- 3.1 Any member of the Board of Governors or member of staff of the University may submit, in confidence to the Clerk of the Honorary Degrees Committee, the name of a person for

consideration for the award of an honorary degree or honorary master. No oral nominations will be considered either prior to or at the meeting.

- 3.2 The Committee shall not consider applications from or on behalf of persons desirous of receiving honorary awards.
- 3.3 Having considered the nominations received, the Committee shall submit in confidence to the Chair's Committee of the Board of Governors a list of those persons to whom it proposes to offer honorary awards. The Chair's Committee shall not have power to veto names on the list, but shall be entitled to refer back any name to the Honorary Degrees Committee for further consideration and final decision.
- 3.4 No honorary degrees and honorary masters of the University shall be offered other than have been approved by the Honorary Degrees Committee.
- 3.5 The name of a person who is to receive an honorary award shall be formally notified to Academic Council and to the Board of Governors only after the Honorary Degrees Committee has approved the offer of the award and the proposed recipient has confirmed their intention to accept.

4. CONFERMENT OF HONORARY AWARDS

Honorary awards shall be conferred at graduation ceremonies of the University.

5. PROCEDURE FOR REVOKING HONORARY AWARDS

- 5.1 Exceptionally, the University may consider revoking an honorary award.
- 5.2 The criteria for revoking an honorary award would be if the future behaviour and/or statements made by a holder of an honorary award were considered contrary to the ethos and values of the university.
- 5.3 The Principal may make a proposal to the Honorary Degrees Committee for an award to be revoked. In such circumstances they would consider the proposal and thereafter notify the Chair's Committee.