



The University of Toledo - Main Campus Policy

II-5

Honorary Degrees

A. Principles For The Awarding Of Honorary Degrees

1. The awarding of honorary degrees should be regarded as an extension of the University's goal of recognizing exceptional achievements.
2. An honorary degree should be awarded only for extraordinary distinction. For example:
 - a. To a member of the academic world only when it can be demonstrated that the recipient has made contributions far and beyond the expected high standards of the profession, including persons who have served at the University. The degree, however, will not be conferred during full-time service at The University of Toledo.
 - b. To a person in the non-academic world, including alumni, only after it is demonstrated that the person has made a contribution which adds a significant new dimension to a society's well-being.
3. It is expected that a reasonable balance will develop between academic and non-academic recipients and among various fields of endeavor.

B. Guidelines For Committee Action

1. Proposals for nomination of candidates for honorary degrees may be submitted to the University Honorary Degree Committee either through the University's administrative channels or directly to the Committee. A proposal should include the following:
 - a. A biographical sketch which includes academic background and professional training, noteworthy activities, appointments, offices, and commendations.

- b. Letters from persons who are competent to evaluate the candidates' achievements. Although the letters should be written in non-technical language, they should be analytical and evaluative, indicating the quality, originality, scope and level of attainment of the candidates.
 - c. Other documents such as reprints. If these documents are technical in nature, a brief interpretation should be included.
 - d. The proposals described above will be held in confidence by the Committee to the extent permitted by law.
- 2. The Committee will review all proposals to confer honorary degrees.
 - 3. The Committee will submit a list of names of persons recommended for honorary degrees to the President of the University for presentation to the Board of Trustees.
 - a. The Committee will determine the number of candidates to be submitted, normally not more than four per year. If the number of proposals exceeds that number, the committee will rank the candidates and will file this list for future deliberation.
 - b. The presiding member of the Committee shall be responsible for submitting the names of the candidates to the President and for maintaining a file of recommendations for nominations for honorary degrees.

Adopted by the UT Board of Trustees, February 10, 1999