



**California State University, Sacramento
Office of the President**

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Guidelines For The Awarding Of Honorary Degrees California State University, Sacramento

In 1996, the Board of Trustees of the California State University established a policy permitting the award of doctoral degrees for three purposes: to recognize excellence and extraordinary achievement in areas that embody the University's ideals; to honor service to the University and the wider society; and to recognize men and women who might serve as examples for the University's student body.

The degrees are to be awarded by the Trustees and in the name of the California State University, or in the name of the California State University and Campus. Recommendations originating in any of the campus communities shall be submitted through the campus President, who shall establish a committee to review recommendations and select no more than two nominations to be forwarded to the Chancellor. The procedures to be used at California State University, Sacramento, for making recommendations on the granting of honorary doctoral degrees are consistent with California State University policy and shall be the following:

1. The Committee on Honorary Degrees shall be chaired by the Vice President for University Advancement and include four (4) members:
 - a. The Chair of the ^{Faculty} Academic Senate or designee
 - b. President of Alumni Association or designee
 - c. President, Associated Students, Inc. or designee
 - d. One at-large member appointed by the President
2. The Committee on Honorary Degrees shall review campus nominations and make recommendations to the President. The Committee shall also assist in compiling material in support of the nominations forwarded to the President.
3. The responsibility for managing the nomination process shall rest with the Office of University Advancement, which will provide staff to the Committee.
4. The Office of University Advancement shall prepare a memorandum containing a summary of the honorary degree criteria and a nomination form, and distribute the memorandum to the Committee in the fall term.

5. The following categories of honorary degrees shall be recognized for conferral by the Board of Trustees:


- a. Doctor of Fine Arts (D.F.A.)
- b. Doctor of Humane Letters (L.H.D.)
- c. Doctor of Laws (LL.D.)
- d. Doctor of Letters (Litt.D.)
- e. Doctor of Science (Sc.D)

6. The criteria for the awarding of honorary degrees is as follows:

- a. Honorary degrees may be awarded to recognize achievements in all parts of the world. Honorary degrees awarded should represent an appropriate balance between local and non-local, and academic and non-academic recipients, and should represent a wide diversity of fields of endeavor.
- b. Nominees for honorary degrees must be distinguished in their respective fields, and the eminence of persons nominated must be widely recognized. Nominees must have demonstrated intellectual and humane values that are consistent with the aims of higher education, and with the highest ideals of the person's chosen fields.
- c. Service or benefaction to the University do not in themselves justify the awarding of honorary degrees. However, nothing in these criteria shall preclude nominees who are benefactors of the California State University.

7. Honorary degrees shall not be awarded to:

- a. Incumbent members of the Board of Trustees of the California State University
- b. The incumbent Chancellor of the California State University
- c. Incumbent Campus Presidents of the California State University
- d. A person who already has been awarded an honorary degree by the California State University
- e. All incumbent elected officials.


Alexander Gonzalez
President

10/27/11
Date