

## **GUIDELINES FOR THE PREPARATION OF NOMINATION MATERIALS FOR HONORARY DEGREES**

### **Honorary Degrees**

Council may confer honorary degrees 'on people who, in the opinion of the Council, are distinguished visitors or outstanding scholars or who have given outstanding service to the Commonwealth, the State or the University'. Candidates may be considered under one or more of the categories.

### **Nominations**

A member of the University's Council, a Dean of Faculty, a Head of School or head of an administrative division, or other interested person may make a nomination for the conferral of an honorary degree. The University Secretary will call for nominations each year. Nominations may also, however, be submitted at any other time.

### **Documentation**

All nominations for the conferral of honorary degrees should be supported by a citation of 300 to 500 words outlining the grounds on which the nomination is made and citing the category (or categories) under which the nominee is considered suitable for the award. A curriculum vitae for the nominee should also be provided if possible.

The nomination should, where appropriate, give the names of 2 referees who could be approached to support the nomination.

### **People who can be considered**

**Distinguished visitors** would include visiting Heads of State or diplomats, scientists, artists, or performers of international renown who happen to be visiting Tasmania or are resident in the State for a time.

Previous conferrals include:

- HE Dr Effendi Norwawi (Malaysian Minister for Agriculture)
- Dr Stuart Challender (conductor, TSO)
- Dr Kenroku Fujii (Japanese businessman and unofficial 'ambassador' for Tasmania).

**Outstanding scholars** would include scholars who have made an outstanding contribution to scholarship (which may be interpreted in the wider sense to include writers, artists and performers) either in Australia or overseas.

Previous conferrals include:

- Sir Leonard Huxley (scientist - overseas)
- Professor John Nicholls (scientist - overseas)
- Professor Marilyn Lake (historian - Australia)
- Dr Peter Conrad (writer - Australia and overseas)
- Dr Graeme Murphy (dancer - Australia)

**Outstanding service to the Commonwealth** would include Governors General, politicians, senior civil servants and diplomats, or persons who have acted as ambassadors for Australia through their contribution to the arts or science.

Previous conferrals include:

- Lord Casey (former Commonwealth Minister and Governor General)
- Dr Peter Dunn (Chief Defence Scientist; chemical weapons inspection program)
- Dr Ashton Calvert (Secretary, DFAT)
- The Hon Dr Neal Blewett (former Commonwealth Minister)

**Outstanding service to the State** would include Governors, politicians, senior civil servants, businessmen, or persons who have made an outstanding contribution to the community or have acted as ambassadors for Tasmania through their contribution to the arts or science.

Previous conferrals include:

- Dr Michael Field (former Premier)
- Dr Tim Bowden (writer and media personality)
- The Hon Dr Nick Evers (Former State Minister and Chair of Tourism Authority)
- Sir Raymond Ferrall (former Chair of the Council for Advanced Education)
- Dr Claudio Alcorso (benefactor to the arts)
- Dr Mary Mallett (Aboriginal elder)

**Outstanding service to the University** would include former employees of the University and those who have acted as benefactors or have in other ways advanced the interests of the University.

Previous conferrals include:

- Sir George Cartland (former Vice-Chancellor)
- Dr Eric Wigglesworth (support for establishment of Menzies Centre)
- Professor Arthur Cobbold (foundation Dean of Medicine)
- Professor Wilfred Townsley (foundation Professor of Political Science)

### **Degrees that can be conferred**

It is usual to confer the higher doctorates of the University, although any degree may be conferred 'honoris causa'. The nexus between the higher doctorate to be conferred and the contribution that is being acknowledged should be based on –

DLitt -	the arts (literature, dance, drama, visual arts, music) and education.
LLD -	law; government; international relations; business.
DSc -	science (both pure and applied).
DEng -	all branches of engineering including naval architecture; development of physical resources.
DAgSc -	all branches of agriculture including aquaculture, viticulture, forestry and sea fisheries.
MD -	all branches of medicine (including relevant microbiological and biomedical research); nutrition; pharmacy.

## **Confidentiality**

All nominations will be treated in the strictest confidence.

## **Method of approval**

The Ceremonial and Honorary Degrees Committee of Council will consider nominations in the first instance. Before considering a nomination, the Committee will seek advice from the Director of Public Relations and University Extension and, in the case of the nomination of a person resident outside Australia, from the Director of International Services, on the manner in which the nomination supports the University's community relations and marketing strategy. The recommendations of the Ceremonial and Honorary Degrees Committee will be submitted to the next available meeting of the University's Council, which will make a determination on the conferral.

## **Advice of Outcome**

The Vice-Chancellor will make each approved recipient an offer of the degree immediately after approval of the conferral by Council. The letter of offer will specify the degree that the University proposes to confer and will outline options for the conferral of the degree. The University Secretary will advise the nominator of the outcome of the nomination where appropriate.

## **Publicity**

The intention to confer an honorary degree may be made public, subject to the agreement of the recipient, any time after an acceptance has been received. In the normal course of events the intention to confer an honorary degree will not be made public until several days before the degree is to be conferred.

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