

POLICY ON HONORARY DEGREES

I. Criteria for Recipients of Honorary Degrees

- A. Recipients shall be persons who have gained respect and admiration of the academic community, consistent with NJCU's mission, so that there is general agreement that they are deserving of such an award.
- B. Recipients shall be persons of national or local prominence, for whom the degree will add to the prestige of the University.
- C. Ordinarily, recipients should be from a field for which we offer a degree or program.
- D. Recipients shall not be current faculty members, administrators or staff at New Jersey City University.
- E. Recipients shall have been reviewed and approved by the Faculty and Professional Staff Affairs Committee (FPSA).
- F. Posthumous degree recipients can include members of the university community.

II. Timeline

- A. The FPSA) committee convenes in the Fall, prior to the planned Commencement awards and delivers names to the President by December 15 of that year.

III. Procedures for selection of Honorary Degrees

- A. Nominations for honorary degree recipients will be received by the FPSA from the Trustees, President, faculty, administration, staff and the Executive Board of the Student Government Association.
- B. The FPSA will select up to four recommended honorees.

The resulting list shall be presented to the President of the University along with a statement of the rationale for selection for each nominees, by December 15th of the academic year in which the degree is granted. This deadline would not apply in those situations where an honorary degree is granted at a ceremony other than commencement.

- C. Persons involved in the selection process shall keep confidential the names under consideration until they are announced publicly; they shall not communicate with nominees regarding consideration. Nominators shall recuse themselves from the selection process.
- D. The final decision in the choice of recipient(s) of the honorary degree/award, and the specific degree/award to be granted shall be determined by the President of the University and the Board of Trustees from the list submitted by the FPSA. All recipients of Honorary Degrees shall have been recommended by the FPSA
- E. The President of the University shall keep the Chairperson of the FPSA informed of progress in the final choice of recipients, by sending copies of correspondence with nominees to the Chairperson, or by other appropriate means.
- F. Honorary degrees shall be awarded only at a public ceremony of the University.

- G. Should the President and Trustees desire to award an honorary degree at public ceremony other than commencement, the FPSA shall be consulted.

IV. Award Associated with Degree

- A. Honorary degrees may carry with them a permanent honor, such as the naming of a scholarship, library, collection, physical facility, etc., for the recipient.
- B. The nature of this award shall be determined by the President of the University and the Board of Trustees after consultation with FPSA.

V. Continuing Policy-Making Function of Committee

- A. The FPSA shall recommend to the Senate additions or modifications in University policy on honorary degrees, whenever appropriate.

VI. Degrees/Awards

- A. The honorary degrees generally awarded, and the basis for selection of which degree is to be awarded, is as follows:
 - i. Doctor of Fine Arts (D.F.A.) - This degree is generally awarded to one who has distinguished himself/herself in one of the artistic disciplines.
 - ii. Doctor of Laws (LL.D.) – This degree is generally awarded to one who has distinguished himself/herself in the field of public affairs, social service or the social studies.
 - iii. Doctor of Letter (Litt.D.) – This degree is generally awarded to one who has distinguished himself/herself in one of the literary or artistic disciplines.
 - iv. Doctor of Music (Mus.D.) - This degree is generally awarded to one who has distinguished himself/herself in the disciplines of music.
 - v. Doctor of Science (SC.D.) – This degree is generally awarded to one who has distinguished himself/herself in one of the scientific disciplines

VII. Revocation of Honorary Degrees

- A. In extraordinary circumstances, the University may feel compelled to revoke a previously awarded honorary degree. The Trustees will decide in consultation with the FPSA and the Faculty Senate.