

## **Policy 9-002: Honorary Degrees**

### **I. Purpose and Scope**

To define the requirements for the University's highest honor - the honorary doctorate degree.

### **II. Definitions**

(Reserved)

### **III. Policy**

#### **A. Standards**

1. Upon recommendation by the President and approval by the Board of Trustees, honorary degrees are awarded to individuals who have achieved unusual distinction in service to the University and/or society in such areas as research, scholarship, education, the arts, humanities, the professions, business, government service, civic affairs, human rights, humanitarian outreach, social activism, innovation and invention.
2. The selection of honorary degree recipients should be made in a manner that will bring honor to both the recipients and the university.
3. Honorary degrees generally will be awarded only at official commencements or at special convocations held on the campus of the university.

#### **B. Limitations**

1. No limit is set on the number of honorary degrees that may be awarded, but the number should never become so large as to diminish their significance or importance.
2. Honorary degrees will not be awarded in absentia.

3. Honorary degrees will not be awarded to members of the Board of Trustees or the Board of Regents while they are serving in that capacity.
  4. Honorary degrees will generally not be awarded to current staff or faculty members.
- C. All matters pertaining to the nomination and selection of honorary degree candidates are confidential.
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[Note: Parts IV-VII of this Regulation (and all other University Regulations) are Regulations Resource Information – the contents of which are not approved by the Academic Senate or Board of Trustees, and are to be updated from time to time as determined appropriate by the cognizant Policy Officer and the Institutional Policy Committee, as per Policy 1-001 and Rule 1-001.]

#### **IV. Rules, Procedures, Guidelines, Forms and other Related Resources**

- A. Rules (reserved)
- B. Procedures  

Procedure 9-002 ([P9-002](#))
- C. Guidelines (reserved)
- D. Forms (reserved)
- E. Other related resource materials (reserved)

#### **V. References**

(reserved)

#### **VI. Contacts**

The designated contact officials for this Policy are:

- A. Policy Owners (primary contact person for questions and advice): Secretary to the University.
- B. Policy Officers: Vice President for Institutional Advancement.

These officials are designated by the University President or delegee, with assistance of the Institutional Policy Committee, to have the following roles and authority, as provided in University Rule 1-001:

"A 'Policy Officer' will be assigned by the President for each University Policy, and will typically be someone at the executive level of the University (i.e., the President and his/her Cabinet Officers). The assigned Policy Officer is authorized to allow exceptions to the Policy in appropriate cases.... "

"The Policy Officer will identify an 'Owner' for each Policy. The Policy Owner is an expert on the Policy topic who may respond to questions about, and provide interpretation of the Policy; and will typically be someone reporting to an executive level position (as defined above), but may be any other person to whom the President or a Vice President has delegated such authority for a specified area of University operations. The Owner has primary responsibility for maintaining the relevant portions of the Regulations Library... [and] bears the responsibility for determining -requirements of particular Policies... ." University Rule 1-001-III-B & E

## **VII. History**

Renumbering: Renumbered as Policy 9-002 effective 9/15/2008, formerly known as PPM 1-9.

Revision history:

- A. Current version: Revision 1

Approved by the Academic Senate: November 1, 2010

Approved by the Board of Trustees: November 9, 2010

Legislative History: This Policy was reformatted in compliance with the new Regulations Library. Procedures were removed from the Policy, and Procedure 9-002 was created.

Background - [Executive Summary](#)

B. Earlier versions:

[Revision 0](#): effective dates February 10, 1975 to November 8, 2010