

FLORIDA	OFFICIAL
POLYTECHNIC	UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY	ACADEMIC POLICY

Subject/Title: Honorary Degrees
FPU Policy Number: FPU-5.0095AP
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Major Revision of Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Minor Technical Revision of Policy
Date First Adopted: December 2, 2015
Date Revised:
Responsible Division/Department: Academic Affairs
Initiating Authority: Ghazi Darkazalli, Executive Vice President and Provost

A. APPLICABILITY/ACCOUNTABILITY:

This policy applies to all honorary degrees awarded by the University and describes the process for recommending and approving nominees for honorary degrees.

B. POLICY STATEMENT:

The University may grant honorary degrees to persons whose achievements align with the University’s purpose and mission. Honorary degrees are awarded to recognize sustained achievement of lasting significance in scholarship, the arts, public service, and/or contributions to the University.

Elected or appointed officials of the State of Florida or the Federal Government to whom the University is directly or indirectly answerable are ineligible for honorary degrees. Current members of the University’s faculty staff, or Board of Trustees are also ineligible. Former members of the Board of Trustees and emeriti faculty should only be considered for honorary degrees on an exceptional basis.

The Honorary Degrees Committee is responsible for creating and publicizing additional criteria and guidelines for awarding honorary degrees.

C. PROCEDURES:

1. University constituents can nominate a person for consideration of an honorary degree.
2. The nominator must include the following information when nominating a person:
 - a. A letter of nomination that summarizes the nominee’s qualifications for this honor;
 - b. A brief curriculum vitae of the nominee (resume or biographical description);
 - c. Other supporting evidence as appropriate (e.g., letters of support, publications, materials);
 - d. And contact information for the nominee.
3. All nominations must be submitted to the Honorary Degrees Committee. Nominations may be submitted at any time.
4. The Honorary Degrees Committee is comprised of the Provost or his/her designee, the Vice President of Advancement, a representative from the Office of the President appointed by the President, and three faculty members appointed by the Faculty Assembly. The Provost or his/her designee serves as the Chair of the Committee.

5. The Committee will review the nominations and select nominees to be recommended to the President for the award of an honorary degree. The Committee may gather additional information on the nominee(s).
6. There should be no communication with the nominee(s) until after the President has made the final decision on conferral of honorary degrees.
7. The Office of the President will notify the nominee(s) that have been selected to be awarded an honorary degree and make arrangements for awarding the honorary degree(s).
8. Honorary degrees may only be awarded at University commencement. If a selected individual is unable to attend the commencement ceremony at Florida Polytechnic University to accept the honorary degree, the individual will be invited to accept the honorary degree at a commencement ceremony during the next academic year. In exceptional cases, an honorary degree may be awarded posthumously.

ACADEMIC POLICY APPROVAL

Academic Policy No.: FPU-5.0095AP

Initiating Authority

Date

Academic Policies Committee Chair

Date

Vice President of Academic Affairs

Date

President/Designee

Date

Approved by FPU BOT, if required

Date

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OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL**