Policy: Honorary degrees

Purpose
To outline the standards which underpin the awarding of honorary degrees at ANU.

Overview
This policy sets out principles that underpin the awarding of honorary degrees to highly eminent individuals in recognition for their significant contributions to the work, reputation or standing of the University; for their outstanding achievement as a scholar; or for their outstanding contributions in the service of society.

Scope
This policy is to apply to all nominations and awards of honorary awards under the *Honorary Degree Rules 2015*.

Policy statement
1. The University confers four kinds of honorary doctorate:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Honorary Award</th>
<th>Honorary Doctor of Science</th>
<th>Honorary Doctor of Letters</th>
<th>Honorary Doctor of Laws</th>
<th>Honorary Doctor of the University</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Postnominal s</td>
<td>HonDSc</td>
<td>HonLittD</td>
<td>HonLLD</td>
<td>HonDUniv</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eligibility</td>
<td>Highly eminent individuals who have made an exceptional contributions to science</td>
<td>Highly eminent individuals who have made an exceptional contributions to a disciplinary or interdisciplinary field or</td>
<td>Highly eminent individuals who have made an exceptional contributions in public</td>
<td>Highly eminent individuals who have made an exceptional contributions to the work, standing or</td>
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<td>Conferral term</td>
<td>Title is retained for life</td>
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**Use of title**

2. Use of the title “Dr”, associated with an honorary degree of the University, is only permitted when participating in an activity or event associated with the University.

**Limitations on eligibility**

3. An Honorary Doctor of Science is to be awarded only with regards to the disciplinary fields of science, technology, engineering or mathematics.

4. The award of an honorary degree to a serving politician or public servant, is only considered in exceptional circumstances.

5. The award of an honorary degree to a person who is when nominated, a member of the staff of the University, is only considered in exceptional circumstances.

**Conferral**

6. An honorary degree is not conferred in absentia.

7. An honorary degree is conferred posthumously if the secretary of the Honorary Degrees Committee had received the relevant proposal before the death of the nominee.