

Policy on Honourary Degrees

Title:	Honourary Degrees
Policy number:	POL 057
Approval(s) required	Academic Senate <input type="checkbox"/> Board of Trustees <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both <input type="checkbox"/>
Date of Senate approval if required	
Date of Board approval if required	(13/03/2024)
Effective date of implementation	(14/03/2024)
Frequency of review required	Every 2 years
Replacing or superseding information	None
Revision number	New
Responsible Office	Office of The President
Accountable Officer	Chief of Staff
Related legislation, regulation, policy, or policies	
Appendix/Appendices	None

1. **Authority**

Board Trustees

2. **Purpose**

This policy establishes the procedure by which honorary degrees are awarded.

3. **Scope**

This policy applies to the University Community.

4. **Definitions**

None

5. **Policy Statement**

5.1. An honorary degree is the university's highest honour used to recognise individuals whose extraordinary achievements have set a standard that distinguishes them, and benefits the University and the communities they serve. Honorary degrees shall generally be awarded in order:

- To honor persons whose careers reflect sustained and superlative achievement in teaching, research, scholarship, public service, leadership, volunteerism, and/or cultural affairs.
- To advance the educational missions, goals, and programmes of UB by developing associations with persons who embody the same ideals, values, and aspirations.
- To inspire students, faculty, staff, administrators, alumni, and members of the local, national, and world communities to emulate such standards of excellence, integrity, and commitment to enhance the public good.

5.2. **Criteria for Awarding**

5.2.1. An honorary degree is special and is awarded in exceptional circumstances. According to the University of The Bahamas Act no more than two (2) per year will be given. No individual will be allowed to receive more than one (1) honorary degree from UB.

5.2.2. Any duly nominated candidate will be considered except for:

5.2.2.1. Current faculty and staff of the University and trustees of the Board of Trustees (Board) are not eligible. Faculty, staff, and trustees who have been separated from, respectively, the University or the Board at least three (3) years are eligible.

5.2.2.2. Currently elected and/or appointed public officials and current candidates and/or nominees for public elective and/or appointed offices in The Commonwealth of The Bahamas are not eligible.

5.2.3. Honorary degrees will not normally be awarded to deceased individuals.

5.2.4. Successful nominees must be present at Commencement in order to be awarded the degree.

5.2.5. The degree awarded will be named the Doctor of the University (*Honoris causa*).

6. **Procedure**

6.1. The President will issue a call for nominations and form a selection committee to ensure integrity of the award process. It will be comprised of appropriate stakeholder representation from the University community.

6.2. Recommendations shall be made by a selection committee to the Academic Senate for approval.

6.3. Once approved by the Senate, the President shall recommend the nominee for the honorary degree to the Board for approval. Upon approval by the Board, the President will notify the recipient of the honorary degree.

6.4. Any candidates nominated, may be kept on the list for 5 years.