AWARDING OF HONORARY DEGREES

OBJECTIVE

Edinboro University reserves the opportunity to award honorary degrees in accordance with PASSHE Board of Governors Policy 1984-12-A, “Honorary Degrees.”

PROCESS

1. A Committee on Honorary Degrees will be established, to be chaired by the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs. Membership will include the President, the Vice President for Advancement, an academic dean, a department chairperson, and two additional faculty members. The dean, department chairperson and faculty members will be recommended by the Provost and approved by the President.

2. The Provost will issue a call for nominations to the University community in May each year, prior to the end of the spring semester, with a nomination receipt deadline of July 1.

3. Normally two such degrees will be conferred each academic year, one each at the December and May undergraduate Commencement ceremonies. The honorees will be expected to deliver an address to the graduates and the University community. In the event that two individuals are honored at a single ceremony, the President will determine which one will serve as speaker.

4. The Committee on Honorary Degrees will meet in July to review and approve nominations based on the criteria and guidelines below. Its recommendations will be forwarded by the Provost to the President for approval. Approved nominees may remain in the pool of possible awardees for forthcoming years. The President will select the recipients for each Commencement ceremony from among the list of approved nominees.

5. Current employees, Trustees, and members of the Edinboro University Foundation and the Alumni Association Boards of Directors are not eligible for nomination.

6. Following the Board of Governors policy, criteria to be considered in nominating individuals include: a record of distinguished service, creativity, scholarship, or other individual accomplishment in the service of humanity. This may be in the scientific, social, academic, creative, business, public or other appropriate sphere.

7. Criteria also include:
a. The potential to deliver a meaningful message that will inspire the graduates and the University community.

b. A record of work and accomplishments that reflects the values and goals of Edinboro University.

8. Nominators should provide a written rationale for their recommendations, addressing the foregoing criteria, to the Provost. Please use the attached cover sheet.

9. The decision on the specific type of honorary degree to be awarded in accordance with Board policy will be made by the President.

10. The President will submit any recommendations for honorary degrees to the Council of Trustees.

11. The Chancellor will be notified, at least thirty days before an honorary degree is to be awarded, of the identity, qualifications and citation to be attached to such a degree.

Approved by Julie E. Wollman, President
Effective June 15, 2012
Review as Required
Supersedes Procedure P006, Dated January 1, 2001