

REGULATION 2

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON HONORARY DEGREES

HONORARY DEGREES CONFERRED BY THE UNIVERSITY

1. The Collegiate Council may approve the conferral of an honorary degree of the University on a person of conspicuous merit, who is outstanding in their field, commands international, or at least national recognition, or who has given exceptional service to the University.
2. The honorary degrees that may be awarded are as follows:
 - Doctor of Divinity (DD)
 - Doctor of Laws (LLD)
 - Doctor of Literature (DLit)
 - Doctor of Literature (Education) (DLit(Ed))
 - Doctor of Music (DMus)
 - Doctor of Science (DSc)
 - Doctor of Science (Economics) (DSc(Econ))
 - Doctor of Science (Engineering) (DSc(Eng))
 - Doctor of Science (Medicine) (DSc(Med))
 - Doctor of Science (Social Sciences) (DSc(SocSc))
 - Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVetMed)
3. An honorary degree will not normally be conferred on a serving Chairman of the governing body of a College, or a person currently employed by the University or a College.
4. An honorary degree will not normally be conferred on a 'serving politician', including:
 - 4.1 Ministers of the Crown;
 - 4.2 Members of Parliament;
 - 4.3 front bench members of the House of Lords;
 - 4.4 other leading active members of a political party; and
 - 4.5 persons in similar positions in other countries.However, honorary degrees may be awarded to:
 - 4.6 back-bench members of the House of Lords, even if affiliated to a political party;
 - 4.7 an 'elder statesman';
 - 4.8 a person retired from high Ministerial office, who is unlikely to hold a Cabinet office position again even if they remain a Member of Parliament; and
 - 4.9 serving Heads of State.
5. An honorary degree will not normally be conferred on a person who: has already been awarded an honorary degree of the University, either by the University or by a College; or who has previously declined to accept a University of London award from the University or from a College. The Secretary of the Collegiate Council will maintain an appropriate record.

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6. An honorary degree will not, save in exceptional circumstances, be conferred *in absentia*.
7. Where the Collegiate Council has formally resolved to confer an honorary degree on a person, and the death of that person occurs before the conferment takes place, the honorary degree will be deemed to have been conferred, the date of the conferment being deemed to be the day preceding the date of death.
8. The Collegiate Council may develop further the criteria for the conferment of honorary degrees. It will determine the procedures for inviting and considering nominations and the arrangements for conferring honorary degrees including for the award of up to three honorary degrees annually by Central Academic Bodies.
9. All honorary degrees will normally be conferred by the Chancellor. In the absence of the Chancellor, honorary degrees will be conferred by the Vice-Chancellor.
10. The revocation of an honorary degree will be decided by the Collegiate Council.

HONORARY DEGREES CONFERRED BY THE COLLEGES

11. Colleges of the University that award University of London degrees may confer honorary degrees of the University in accordance with this Ordinance.
12. Each College is entitled to award up to five University of London honorary degrees annually. It is permissible for a College to carry over its entitlement in one year to the following year, but for that year only.
13. Each College will determine its procedures for inviting and approving nominations and conferring honorary degrees, subject to observing the following:
 - 13.1 Paragraphs 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 of this Ordinance will apply, as will any further criteria or requirements approved by the Collegiate Council and communicated to Colleges.
 - 13.2 An honorary degree will not be conferred on a person whose contribution or achievements lie chiefly in service to the College, and will not normally be conferred on someone who is already a fellow or honorary fellow of the College.
 - 13.3 A proposal to confer an honorary degree will be made by a College committee which will be chaired by either the Head of the College or the Chairman of the governing body and whose members will include both lay members of the governing body and members of the academic staff. The proposal will be considered and approved by the College Governing Body.
 - 13.4 In offering a person an honorary degree, the College will make it clear that it is an honorary degree of the University conferred by the College.
 - 13.5 At any ceremony to confer the honorary degree, unless the Chancellor is able to be present, the Head of the College, or his or her deputy, will confer the degree on behalf of the Chancellor and the University (unless the College requests that it be done by the Vice-Chancellor), although the Head of the College need not preside.

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Procedure

- 13.6 Prior to consideration of a nomination by the College governing body, a College will make an enquiry to the Secretary of the Collegiate Council to establish if a particular nominee:
- 13.6.1 has declined to accept a University of London honorary degree from another College or the University;
 - 13.6.2 has already been awarded a University of London honorary degree by the University or a College; or
 - 13.6.3 has been nominated by another College or the University.
- 13.7 Colleges should not communicate with any nominee until the College governing body has considered and formally approved the nomination.

Diploma

- 13.8 The diploma for an honorary degree conferred by a College should contain the following:
- 13.8.1 the arms of the University; the arms or logo of the College may also be added;
 - 13.8.2 the name "University of London" and the name of the College; the name of the University being the same size as that of the College;
 - 13.8.3 the name of the recipient and the degree;
 - 13.8.4 the words "the honorary degree of ..." before the name of the degree, or the words "*honoris causa*" after the name of the degree;
 - 13.8.5 that the degree is a degree of the University of London and is awarded on the authority of the governing body of the College;
 - 13.8.6 the date of conferment;
 - 13.8.7 the signatures of the Vice-Chancellor and the Head of the College; the signature of the Chairman of the College governing body may also be included; [The signatures on the diploma remain the same, irrespective of who actually confers the degree.] and
 - 13.8.8 the University Seal.
- 13.9 Diplomas should be sent to the Secretary of the Collegiate Council who will arrange for them to be signed by the Vice-Chancellor and for the University Seal to be applied.

Annual reporting

- 13.10 Colleges will submit to the Collegiate Council on an annual basis details of all those persons on which it has conferred or has agreed to confer an honorary degree of the University of London.

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Academic dress

- 13.11 Recipients of honorary degrees should wear the scarlet higher doctorate gown and hood of the University, faced and lined with the colour appropriate to the degree being awarded. Other designs of gowns and hoods are not permissible.

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