

SONOMA STATE UNIVERSITY

Procedure for Consideration of CSU Honorary Doctorates Academic Year 2022-2023

Each year the Chancellor's Office issues a call for campus recommendations for the awarding of honorary doctoral degrees by the Board of Trustees of the California State University (CSU). Annually, each campus may submit up to two nominations to the Chancellor's Office. This is a fall process with a deadline normally at the beginning of December. This year that deadline is November 30, 2022.

Campus nominations will be vetted and sent to the Board of Trustees Subcommittee on Honorary Degrees for review, in preparation for the January 24-25, 2023 board meeting. The conferral of honorary degrees is expected to take place during spring commencement.

CSU campuses have awarded honorary degrees to distinguished individuals who have demonstrated excellence in areas that benefit CSU campuses; the state, nation, and/or world; and/or humanity. Recipients serve as examples to be recognized and honored for their exemplary contributions. Per the CSU policy for awarding honorary degrees, current faculty and staff, as well as members of their immediate family, are ineligible to receive an honorary degree. More information about the selection of recipients of honorary degrees may be found in [The California State University Board of Trustees Policy for Awarding Honorary Degrees](#).

Sonoma State's Honorary Degree Nominating Committee invites your nominations for honorary degrees. Please use the provided link to submit nominations to the Vice President for University Advancement by close of business on **Friday, November 11, 2022**. **This is a confidential process and discussion of the award with potential honorary doctorate nominees is prohibited.**

The committee shall review recommendations and assist in the development of materials in support of nominations to be forwarded to the President for consideration. Following appropriate consultation with this committee, the President shall select no more than two nominations to be forwarded to the Chancellor in any given academic year. Honorary degrees awarded to couples (as individuals) shall count as only one of the two nominations allowed for each campus.

An individual may be nominated from the following degrees:

- Doctor of Fine Arts (D.F.A.)
- Doctor of Humane Letters (L.H.D.)
- Doctor of Laws (LL.D.)
- Doctor of Letters (Litt.D.)
- Doctor of Science (Sc.D.)

Sonoma State Nominating Committee:

The Vice President for Advancement will work with the Chair of the Academic Senate to convene the nominating committee to review new submissions and nominations from previous years. Once finalized,

a pool of 1-5 nominees will be submitted to the President as a recommendation from the nominating committee. Nominees forwarded to the President will be accompanied with a photo and biography for each nomination. The members of the nominating committee are:

1. Vice President for University Advancement — Dr. Mario A. Perez
2. Provost — Dr. Karen Moranski
3. Associate Vice President for Strategic Communications — TBD
4. Associated Students President — Yasmin Esquivel
5. Chair, Academic Senate — Dr. Lauren S. Morimoto
6. Alumni Association — Tiffany O'Neil
7. Staff Council Chair — Katie Musick
8. Administrative Support -- Kyle Bishop-Gabriel (Non-voting member)

Sonoma State University Recommendations:

This is a confidential process. Under no circumstances should the nominee be informed that their name has been put forward. Not all candidates can be recognized and knowledge of a failed nomination can be embarrassing to both the candidate and the institution. While any Sonoma State faculty, staff, student, or alumna/alumnus may nominate a potential candidate, each recommendation must include the following and be submitted using the following [nomination form](#).

- Nomination letter (no more than one page)
 - Name and contact information of nominator
 - SSU affiliation or involvement of the nominator
 - Rationale for how the nominee meets the criteria for an honorary degree

- Biographical summary of the nominee (no more than one page)
 - Education
 - Profession
 - Recent Affiliations
 - Awards received
 - SSU Involvement
 - Philanthropic Background

Criteria for the Awarding of Honorary Degrees:

CSU campuses have awarded honorary degrees to distinguished individuals who have demonstrated excellence in areas that benefit CSU campuses; the state, nation and/or world; and/or humanity. Recipients serve as examples to be recognized and honored for their exemplary contributions. Please forward any questions to hdnominee@sonoma.edu.