

Criteria for conferring honorary doctorates

The objectives guiding the conferring of honorary doctorates include the following:

1. Recognizing the outstanding achievements and contributions of individuals from Canada or abroad, at the local, national or international levels in areas such as the sciences, the humanities, business, law, medicine, health, engineering, public service, etc., but more particularly the fields in which the University of Ottawa itself is involved;
2. Recognizing academics, scientists, researchers, humanists and scholars who have made a significant, pioneering or revolutionary contribution to their area;
3. Inspiring graduating students at convocation ceremonies by presenting the honourees as role models;
4. Reflecting the University's values, especially its bilingual character;
5. Recognizing individuals whose achievements or contributions in their field or society may not necessarily have been widely acclaimed but who nevertheless deserve recognition given their significance;
6. Bringing honour and distinction to the University thanks to the presence of special honourees at convocation.

Exclusions

The University of Ottawa does not normally confer honorary doctorates:

1. On active members of the administrative and professorial staff and of the Board of Governors and Senate. Their candidacy may be considered two years after their active service at the University comes to an end.
2. In absentia or posthumously.

Approved by the Committee on Honorary Degrees at its meeting of August 24, 2010 and by the Senate at its meeting of November 1st, 2010.