



REGULATIONS FOR THE CONFERMENT OF HONORARY AWARDS AND TITLES

(Approved by Academic Board 31 October 2017)

Powers and titles

1. Under powers conferred by the Privy Council, Bath Spa University may award degrees including honorary degrees, and under the Articles of Government the Academic Board has the power to determine procedures for the award of qualifications and honorary academic titles.
2. The honorary degrees and titles the University may confer are:

Doctor of Arts	(DArt)
Doctor of Education	(DEd)
Doctor of Letters	(DLitt)
Doctor of Music	(DMus)
Doctor of Science	(DSc)
Master of Arts	(MA)
Master of Education	(MEd)
Master of Music	(MMus)
Master of Science	(MSc)

Honorary Fellowship of the University

Procedures

3. There shall be an Honorary Degrees & Titles Committee of the Academic Board with the responsibility to consider nominations for Honorary Awards and to make recommendations to Academic Board.
4. The Secretary of the Honorary Degrees & Titles Committee shall seek nominations for honorary award from all members of the University and members of the Board of Governors on at least an annual basis, in a form approved by the Committee, but such nominations may be made at any time.

Criteria for Honorary Awards

5. Honorary degrees may be awarded against one or more of the following criteria:
 - Academic recognition for research or teaching in a subject area researched or taught at Bath Spa University
 - An outstanding contribution to national and/or international life in any way;
 - An active and influential role in enhancing the provision of education in the UK or abroad;
 - An achievement or example worthy to stand as a role model for students.
6. Honorary fellowships will usually be awarded as recognition of a substantial contribution to the life and work of Bath Spa University.

Eligibility for Honorary Awards

7. Honorary awards may not be made to serving politicians, current members of the Board of Governors or current staff.
8. An individual may not nominate themselves for an honorary award.
9. An individual may on separate occasions be awarded an honorary fellowship and an honorary degree, but an individual may not normally receive more than one honorary degree.

Due Diligence and Scrutiny

10. All nominations for honorary awards shall be subject to scrutiny and due diligence to establish eligibility against these regulations. This process will be led by the Secretary of the Honorary Awards and Titles Committee.
11. Any nomination deemed not to meet the university's eligibility criteria for honorary awards will not be taken forward for consideration by the Honorary Degrees & Titles Committee.

Use of Awards

12. Holders of honorary awards of the University may be entitled to enjoy non-stipendiary benefits of the University as agreed from time to time by the Vice-Chancellor.

Presentation of Honorary Awards

13. Honorary awards will normally be conferred in person at a degree ceremony of the University, but alternatively may be conferred in person at another appropriate event designated for the purpose.

Honorary Degrees & Titles Committee

14. The purpose of the Committee shall be to consider nominations for honorary awards and make recommendations to Academic Board. The Committee will meet at least annually.
15. Membership of the Committee shall be:
 - Vice-Chancellor, or nominee (Chair)
 - Executive Deans
 - A student nominated by the Students' Union
 - An independent member of the Board of Governors
 - Registrar (Secretary)
16. The Committee shall determine procedures for the securing nominations for honorary awards on at least an annual basis.
17. The Secretary shall carry out due diligence to ensure that nominees for honorary awards are eligible and suitable for such an award, prior to nominations coming to the Committee for consideration.
18. The Committee shall make recommendations to Academic Board for the approval of honorary awards.
19. Academic Board shall notify the Board of Governors of persons to be offered honorary awards of the University. The Board of Governors may refer back to Academic Board any candidate if it believes that there are strong reasons why an honorary award should not be made.

Withdrawal of Honorary Degrees & Titles

20. The University retains the right to withdraw an honorary award should there be good reason to consider that its retention would cause substantial damage to the reputation of the University.
21. The decision to withdraw an honorary award will be taken by the Vice-Chancellor as Chair of Academic Board, on the advice of the Honorary Degrees & Titles Committee, and will be reported subsequently to Academic Board.