



Honorary Awards Policy

1. STRATEGIC PLAN THEME AND COMPLIANCE OBLIGATION SUPPORTED

Strategic Plan Theme: [Sustainable Future](#)

2. PURPOSE

To specify the Honorary Awards of the University, including their criteria and key aspects of the selection and presentation processes.

3. POLICY STATEMENT

3.1. Intent

3.1.1. Honorary Awards are awarded by the University for the purposes of:

- a) formally and publicly recognising the exceptional or distinguished contribution of an individual to the University, the broader society or a field of academic endeavour;
- b) enhancing the standing and reputation of the University; and
- c) expanding or building on existing relationships.

3.1.2. Honorary Awards are prestigious honours, intended to recognise substantial achievements or contributions by individuals.

3.1.3. To preserve their prestige, an Honorary Award will only be made to persons of good fame, integrity and character who demonstrate Curtin's Values.

3.1.4. The awarding of Honorary Awards will reflect the University's commitment to diversity and gender equity.

3.1.5. Honorary Awards are approved by the Council or the Vice-Chancellor following a rigorous review process, using specified criteria and the application of due diligence processes (including risk assessment processes) designed to protect both the recipient and the University.

3.1.6. There is no expectation or requirement on the Council or the Vice-Chancellor (as appropriate) to make an award in any category in any year.

3.1.7. To protect the integrity of the awards and the reputation of the University, the Council may, at its sole discretion, revoke an Honorary Award if in its view a recipient's continued association with the University would bring the University into disrepute.

3.2. Honorary Awards

3.2.1. Honorary Awards that may be approved by the Council are:

- a) Honorary Doctorates, specifically the:
 - i) Honorary Doctor of the University (HonDUniv(Curtin));
 - ii) Honorary Doctor of Arts (HonDArts(Curtin));
 - iii) Honorary Doctor of Commerce (HonDComm(Curtin));
 - iv) Honorary Doctor of Engineering (HonDEng(Curtin));
 - v) Honorary Doctor of Laws (HonDLaws(Curtin));
 - vi) Honorary Doctor of Letters (HonDLitt(Curtin));
 - vii) Honorary Doctor of Medicine (HonDMed(Curtin));
 - viii) Honorary Doctor of Science (HonDSc(Curtin)); and
- b) Curtin University Fellow (CF).

3.2.2. Honorary Awards that may be approved by the Vice-Chancellor are:

- a) The title 'Emeritus Professor';

- b) The title 'John Curtin Distinguished Emeritus Professor';
- c) The title 'John Curtin Distinguished Professor'; and
- d) The title 'John Curtin Distinguished Visiting Professor'.

3.3. Eligibility for Honorary Doctorates

- 3.3.1. Each of the Honorary Doctorates has a different focus, but all are of equal status.
- 3.3.2. An Honorary Doctorate will not normally be awarded to a person who is a serving member of Council, a current member of the University staff, or a serving Federal, State or local government politician (or the international equivalent).
- 3.3.3. The criteria for the award of Honorary Doctor of the University are:
 - a) exceptional service to the University, usually over a sustained period of time; **and**
 - b) exceptional record of service to professional and/or public life.
- 3.3.4. The criteria for the award of Honorary Doctor of Arts are:
 - a) distinguished contribution to an academic discipline or field of endeavor relating to the creative arts; **and**
 - b) exceptional record of service to professional and/or public life.
- 3.3.5. The criteria for the award of Honorary Doctor of Commerce are:
 - a) distinguished contribution to an academic discipline or field of endeavor relating to commerce and business; **and**
 - b) exceptional record of service to professional and/or public life.
- 3.3.6. The criteria for the award of Honorary Doctor of Engineering are:
 - a) distinguished contribution to an academic discipline or field of endeavor relating to engineering; **and**
 - b) exceptional record of service to professional and/or public life.
- 3.3.7. The criteria for the award of Honorary Doctor of Laws are:
 - a) distinguished contribution to an academic discipline or field of endeavor relating to law; **and**
 - b) exceptional record of service to professional and/or public life.
- 3.3.8. The criteria for the award of Honorary Doctor of Letters are:
 - a) distinguished contribution to an academic discipline or field of endeavor relating to the humanities and social sciences; **and**
 - b) exceptional record of service to professional and/or public life.
- 3.3.9. The criteria for the award of Honorary Doctor of Medicine are:
 - a) distinguished contribution to an academic discipline or field of endeavor relating to medicine; **and**
 - b) exceptional record of service to professional and/or public life.
- 3.3.10. The criteria for the award of Honorary Doctor of Science are:
 - a) distinguished contribution to an academic discipline or field of endeavor, relating to, the physical sciences or health sciences; **and**
 - b) exceptional record of service to professional and/or public life.

3.4. Eligibility for Curtin University Fellow

- 3.4.1. The criteria for the award of Curtin University Fellow are that the nominee:
 - a) has served as an exemplar to the staff and students of the University (which includes global campuses) through their initiative and leadership or distinction in any field of endeavour related to the University; **or**
 - b) has influenced the character of the University through their interest in the University and by virtue of their professional standing within the community.

3.5. Eligibility for the title 'Emeritus Professor'

- 3.5.1. The criteria for the award of the title 'Emeritus Professor' are that the nominee:
- a) is normally within six months of retirement from academia or has retired from Curtin University for no more than six months; **and**
 - b) held the title of Professor at Curtin University (which includes global campuses) at the time of their retirement; **and**
 - c) has demonstrated distinguished service and commitment to the University and Curtin's Values over a period of normally five years of continuous service prior to retirement; **and**
 - d) is respected by their peers and colleagues, their discipline/profession and the community.

3.6. Eligibility for the title 'John Curtin Distinguished Emeritus Professor'

3.6.1. The criteria for the award of the title 'John Curtin Distinguished Emeritus Professor' are that the nominee:

- a) is normally within six months of retirement from academia or has retired from Curtin University for no more than six months; **and**
- b) held the title of 'John Curtin Distinguished Professor' at Curtin University (which includes global campuses) at the time of their retirement; **and**
- c) has demonstrated distinguished service and commitment to the University and Curtin's Values over a period of normally five years of continuous service prior to retirement; **and**
- d) is respected by their peers and colleagues, their discipline/profession and the community.

3.7. Eligibility for the title 'John Curtin Distinguished Professor'

3.7.1. The criteria for the award of the title 'John Curtin Distinguished Professor' are that the nominee:

- a) holds the title of Professor at Curtin University (which includes global campuses); **and**
- b) has the demonstrated capacity to provide a significant and sustained contribution to the University, as evidenced by:
 - i) distinguished national or international academic reputation; **and**
 - ii) exceptional teaching and/or research skills; or exceptional scholarly, creative and artistic achievements; **and**
 - iii) distinguished record of service to professional and/or public life.

3.8. Eligibility for the title 'John Curtin Distinguished Visiting Professor'

3.8.1. The criteria for award of the title 'John Curtin Distinguished Visiting Professor' are that the nominee:

- a) is a Visiting Professor of the University (including global campuses); **and**
- b) has the demonstrated capacity to provide a significant and sustained contribution to the University, as evidenced by:
 - i) distinguished national or international academic reputation; **and**
 - ii) exceptional teaching and/or research skills; or exceptional scholarly, creative and artistic achievements; **and**
 - iii) distinguished record of service to professional and/or public life.

4. RESPONSIBILITY FOR IMPLEMENTATION AND COMPLIANCE MONITORING

These management positions are responsible for implementation and compliance monitoring of the policy in their work areas:

- Provost
- Council Secretary

5. SCOPE OF POLICY

This policy applies to all members of the University community (which includes Council members, students, staff, University Associates, Curtin controlled entities, and all persons participating in University business or activities, including whether as a visitor, adjunct appointee, service provider, or contractor).

6. DEFINITIONS

(Note: Commonly defined terms are located in the [Curtin Common Definitions](#). Any defined terms below are specific to this document)

Nil

7. SUPPORTING PROCEDURES

[Honorary Doctorate Procedures](#)

[Curtin University Fellow Procedures](#)

Award of the [Titles of Emeritus Professor and John Curtin Distinguished Emeritus Professor Procedures](#)

Award of the [Titles of John Curtin Distinguished Professor and John Curtin Distinguished Visiting Professor Procedures](#)

8. RELATED DOCUMENTS/LINKS

[Appointment of Visiting or Adjunct Staff Procedures](#)

[Awards and Graduations Manual](#)

[Curtin University Act \(1966\) \(Section 18, \(1\) \(b\)\)](#)

Policy Compliance Officer	Kristi Jarvis , Director, Governance Services and Council Secretary
Policy Manager	Chief Legal Officer
Approval Authority	Council
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REVISION HISTORY

Version	Approved/ Amended/ Rescinded	Date	Committee / Board / Executive Manager	Approval / Resolution Number	Key Changes and Notes
New	Approved	11/12/2013	Council	C 206/13	Attachment 1 to Confidential Document No 01236/13, effective 1 January 2014
	Administratively Updated	04/03/2014	Director, Legal and Compliance Services		Title change from Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic to Provost and Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor
	Administratively Updated	06/10/2015	Director, Legal and Compliance Services	EC 76/15	Executive Manager Title Changes
	Approved	07/12/2016	Council	C 188/16	Attachment A to item 8.1.4
	Administratively Updated	19/06/2017	Director, Legal and Compliance Services		Amendment to clause 2.3.5
	Approved	06/12/2017	Council	C 175/17	Amendment to clauses 3.2, 3.3

	Approved	08/12/2021	Council	C 182/21	Attachment A to Item 8.2
	Approved	16/10/2024	Council	C152/24	Attachment D to item 8.3