

University of Canberra (Honorary Degree) Rules 2024

made under the

University of Canberra Act 1989, s 40 (Statutes) and the University of Canberra (Honorary Degree) Statute 2008.

1 Name of instrument

This instrument is the *University of Canberra (Honorary Degree) Rules 2024*.

2 Commencement

These Rules commence on the day they are made.

3 Repeal

The *University of Canberra (Honorary Degree) Rules 2019* are repealed. Any decision taken to have been made under those Rules will be taken to have been made under these Rules.

4 Definitions

In these Rules, unless the contrary intention appears:

Academic board means the body established under section 19 of the Act;

Act means the *University of Canberra Act 1989* (ACT);

Chancellor means the person appointed to that position under section 24 of the Act;

Committee means the Committee established by the Council for the purpose outlined under Section 8;

Council means the body established under section 9 of the Act;

Deputy Chancellor means the person appointed to that position under section 24A of the Act;

Honorary degree means the degree of Doctor of the University;

Secretary means

- (a) the Secretary of Council; or
- (b) an officer of the University appointed under subrule 5; and

Vice-Chancellor means the person appointed to that position under section 25 of the Act.

5 Appointment of person to be Secretary

The Vice-Chancellor may appoint an officer of the University to be the Secretary for the purposes of these Rules.

6 Honorary degrees

The Council may admit to an Honorary degree a person certified as worthy to be admitted on the grounds of:

- (a) distinguished achievement as a scholar or a member of a profession; or
- (b) outstanding service to the University or the community.

7 Proposals for admission

A proposal for the admission of a person to an Honorary degree:

- (a) may be initiated confidentially by any person or member of the Council in writing;
- (b) must be signed by the Vice-Chancellor and the Chancellor as an indication of their preliminary support before being considered by the Committee;
- (c) must give the reasons that make it appropriate that the person proposed should be admitted to an Honorary degree of the University;
- (d) must contain supporting information;
- (e) may contain supporting opinions and suggestions as to persons appropriate to be consulted in relation to the proposal; and
- (f) must be submitted to the Secretary in the format determined by the Committee from time to time.

8 Honorary Degree Committee

There is to be a Committee of the Council, as determined by the Council from time to time, that is responsible for making recommendations to the Council for the award of Honorary degrees in accordance with these Rules.

9 Procedures of Committee and Nomination Process

- (1) Subject to these Rules, the Committee is to determine its own procedures.
- (2) The Committee may only accept a proposal for admission to an Honorary degree if the proposal receives unanimous support at a meeting of the Committee.
- (3) If the proposal is accepted the Secretary will prepare a recommendation to the Council.

- (4) No contact, direct or indirect, is to be made with a person who is under consideration, until the Council has accepted the Committee's recommendation to admit the person concerned to the degree.
- (5) The identity of the proposer and person who is under consideration for the award of an Honorary degree and any information or consultations in connection with the proposal must remain confidential even after the degree has been awarded.
- (6) When the Council accepts a recommendation from the Committee for the award of an Honorary degree, the Chancellor or Vice-Chancellor must ascertain the proposed recipient's willingness to be admitted to the degree and agree a citation with the proposed recipient.
- (7) No announcement of the Council's decision is to be made until the proposed recipient has indicated his or her willingness to be admitted to the degree.

10 Conferring of Degree

- (1) The conferring of an Honorary degree is to be at such time as is convenient to both the University and the recipient.
- (2) An Honorary degree may not be conferred *in absentia*.
- (3) However, despite subrules 10(1) and 10(2), an Honorary degree may be conferred posthumously if the proposed recipient had agreed to be admitted to it under subrule 9 or other exceptional circumstances apply.

11 Revocation of Degree

The Council may revoke a proposal for admission to an Honorary degree or the award of an Honorary degree, even after conferral, where the recipient has engaged in behaviour that would reasonably be regarded as likely to bring the University into disrepute.

Note Conviction for committing a criminal offence under a law in force in Australia or overseas may constitute a valid ground for revoking the award of an Honorary degree.

The foregoing Rules are made by Council under section 40 of the *University of Canberra Act 1989* and the *University of Canberra (Honorary Degree) Statute 2008*.

In making these Rules the University had regard to the provisions of section 40B(1)(b) of the *Human Rights Act 2004*.

Approved by Council on 6 September 2024.