



POLICIES *and* PROCEDURES

Board of Trustees Policy Number:
BTRU 1.07

Date of Adoption/Revision:
January 28, 2017

SUBJECT	Awarding of Honorary Degrees
AUTHORITY	Board of Trustees
APPLICABILITY	All potential candidates for the awarding of Honorary Degrees
PURPOSE	To ensure a systematic and equitable process for awarding honorary degree.

POLICY	<p>Bennett College will award honorary degrees on a selective basis to distinguished individuals who merit special recognition for genuine achievement and distinction in a field or activity consonant with the mission of the College. Recipients of Bennett College honorary degrees should reflect the College's high ideals and values, should enhance the reputation of the College, and should exemplify the concepts of excellence, service, and integrity. Only the Board of Trustees may authorize the award of an honorary degree which are:</p> <p>Doctor of Arts (D.A.) – Design, visual, or performing arts; Doctor of Humane Letters (L.H.D.) – Service to society (humanitarianism) and scholarship in the humanities, journalism, or social sciences; Doctor of Laws (LL.D.) – Law, public policy, and public service; Doctor of Science (Sc.D.) – Science, medicine, engineering, and related fields.</p>
PROCEDURES	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The chair of the Honorary Degree Selection Committee of the Faculty Senate solicits nominations of persons to be considered for the award of an honorary degree in September of each year. Nominations may come from a variety of sources including Board of Trustees, Faculty, Staff, Students, and Alumnae, and must be submitted through the office of a dean or the President. Letters of nomination should outline the nominee's qualifications and the reasons why Bennett College should consider awarding an honorary degree to the nominee. 2. The Honorary Degree Selection Committee assesses the nomination letters, requests additional supporting materials if appropriate, and forwards a list to the Faculty Senate. The full Faculty votes on each nomination, and forwards recommendations to the President. 3. The President presents candidates for honorary degrees to the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees. The Committee reviews the nominees and formulates recommendations to the full board. 4. Nominations and discussions of nominees will be confidential throughout the process. No publicity shall be issued regarding nominees until final approval by the Board of Trustees. 5. The full board will evaluate nominees, and approve them, if there is consent by 2/3 of all trustees present and voting. This process must take

	<p>place three (3) months in advance of the May Commencement.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">6. The board may decide to make an exception to this process if there is consent from 2/3 of trustees.7. The President contacts honorary degree nominees and makes arrangements for the honorary degree to be conferred at the May commencement.8. While the number of nominations is not limited, except under unusual circumstances when the Board of Trustees determines otherwise, no more than two honorary degrees will be awarded per commencement.9. The College may award an honorary degree to an approved candidate at any time within two years of the Board's granting of that approval. After that time, the Board must re-approve the candidate in order to award the honorary degree10. Except under unusual circumstances when the Board of Trustees determines otherwise, an honorary degree recipient shall not receive a speaker's fee or honorarium for accepting an honorary degree or delivering a commencement address or the equivalent. Doctor of Humane Letters (LL.D.),11. No honorary degree shall be conferred unless the recipient is present.
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Replaces policy: <i>Date</i>
