

Call for Nominations – Honorary Degrees 2027

The Senate Honours and Awards Committee invites nominations for honorary degrees, to be awarded at Convocation ceremonies in 2027.

An honorary degree is the highest honour bestowed within the power of the University, and as such is a reflection of the University of Guelph’s highest aspirations, mission, and values, and in particular where those values are reflected by individuals whose extraordinary achievements work to “improve life”.

In conferring honorary degrees, the University of Guelph seeks to recognize extraordinary achievement, and to honour individuals whose accomplishments demonstrate both a transformative impact and standard of excellence such that they provide, through example, inspiration to graduates of the University and to the University community. Individuals receiving an honorary degree become ambassadors for the University; thus, through their association and engagement should enhance the reputation of the University of Guelph.

The University of Guelph confers the following honorary degrees:

Doctor of Laws (LL.D.)

Awarded for significant and extraordinary contributions or service to society, the University or community as a whole; or, to a profession or discipline concerned with service to the community.

Doctor of Letters (D.Litt.)

Awarded for significant and extraordinary contributions to academic life, knowledge or society in the areas of the humanities or the creative and performing arts.

Doctor of Science (D.Sc.)

Awarded for significant and extraordinary contributions to academic life, knowledge or society in the areas of pure and applied science, and/or social science.

Complete details regarding the nomination process and criteria can be found in the [Guidelines for the Awarding of Honorary Degrees](#).¹

¹ URL: <https://uoguelph/hn3ca>

Commitment to Indigenization, Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Accessibility (IEDIA)

The University of Guelph recognizes that an inclusive campus and a culture of inclusion are institutional and social imperatives. A culture of inclusion necessitates the involvement of stakeholders with a wide array of lived experiences, identities and perspectives on the Board of Governors and Senate to support, oversee and drive a strategic and system-wide approach to IEDIA.

The University is committed to fostering a culture of inclusion and to designing, reviewing, and rebuilding structures – including policies, programs, and practices – that are inclusive, equitable, and accessible to all. In keeping with this commitment, nominations of qualified individuals from historically marginalized and underrepresented communities including those who identify as Black, Indigenous, or Persons of Colour; persons with a disability or who identify as differently abled; persons of all genders, and sexual orientations; and those with a demonstrable track record of confronting oppression and promoting belonging in their organizations and communities are strongly encouraged.

Questions and Submission of Nominations

Questions regarding the nomination process or criteria may be directed to:

Joanne Emeneau, Associate University Secretary (joanne.emeneau@exec.uoguelph.ca or ext. 56758)

In order to be considered for presentation at Convocation ceremonies in 2027, nominations for honorary degrees must be received by September 4, 2026.

Nominations may be submitted in confidence to the University Secretariat at univsec@uoguelph.ca (electronic submissions preferred), or to:

Senate Honours and Awards Committee
c/o University Secretariat
University Centre, 4th Floor
University of Guelph
Guelph, Ontario N1G 2W1