

## Policy on Honorary Degrees

Office of Academic Affairs Policy Document Number: AA-03.1-2024

Adopted by the Board of Regents: October 2000

**Policy Purpose:** This policy creates a process by which the Institute may confer honorary degrees.

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## POLICY STATEMENT

## **Policy Statement:**

The Board of Regents confers the honorary degree in recognition of outstanding merit or achievement without reference to the fulfillment of academic course requirements. The purpose of the honorary degree is to recognize individuals by awarding special honors to persons whom have contributed significantly to the cultural, educational, or scientific development of programs or services at NMT, as well as those eminent individuals and scholars whose contributions are of more general significance and transcend geographic limitations.

It is not the Institute's policy to award honorary degrees to currently employed faculty, staff or administration, though exceptional cases shall not be precluded from being considered for the award.

The award of an honorary degree to a person seeking or holding a political office shall not constitute endorsement by NMT. However, political involvement shall not prevent consideration of an individual for an honorary degree.

Honorary degrees are awarded upon the recommendation of the Honorary Degree and Awards (HD&A) committee with concurrence of the Faculty <u>Council-Senate</u>, <u>Vice President of</u> <u>Academic Affairs</u>, <u>President</u>, and the approval of the Board of Regents.

## **Required Process:**

Selection and appointment of the HD&A Committee members is the annual responsibility of the Faculty <u>Council's Senate's</u> Nominating Committee whose own members are elected at the start of each academic year by the NM<u>HM</u>T's Faculty <u>CouncilSenate</u>. The HD&A Committee is composed of three faculty members, each of whom serves a two-year term with a one, two rotation.

The Nominating Committee selects faculty members to replace the HD&A Committee members who have either completed their term or who are no longer employed by the Institute or for any other reason are no longer members of the HD&A Committee. Following committee members' selection, the Nominating Committee shall request that approval of the new committee be included for vote <u>no later thanat</u> the October Faculty <u>Council-Senate</u> meeting agenda. The HD&A Committee shall then elect its chairperson for that academic year.

Mahyar A. Amouzegar President Michael Jackson Provost and VPAA

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