

STATUTE 6 – ADMISSION TO DEGREES

- 6.1 Conferral of Degrees, Diplomas and Other Awards of the University
- 6.2 Honorary Degrees
- 6.3 Revocation and Relinquishment of Honorary Degrees

- 6.1.1 Candidates who have fulfilled all the conditions prescribed by the Statutes and Regulations of the University relating to any Current Awards of the University shall be conferred with such degree, diploma or other award in the manner provided in this Statute.
- 6.1.2 Senate shall delegate to the Vice-Chancellor and President the authority to confer degrees, diplomas or other awards on recommendation by the Chair of the Academic Board
- 6.1.3 A summary report of all conferrals will be provided to the Senate following each conferral period.
- 6.1.4 In rare and exceptional circumstances, and in accordance with the relevant policy, the Vice-Chancellor and President may, on the recommendation of the Chair of Academic Board, confer a degree, diploma or other award to a candidate:
- (a) posthumously, where the candidate was in the final stages of their degree, diploma or other award; or
 - (b) where a candidate has become incapacitated and is in the final stages of their degree, diploma or other award.

ORIGINATED BY SENATE RESOLUTION: 91/83
DATED: 29-30 October 1991

AMENDMENT NO: 4
SENATE RESOLUTION: S 2020/106
DATED: 15 October 2020

**COMMON SEAL AFFIXED
BY SECRETARY**



- 6.2.1 There shall be an honorary degree of Doctor of the University [*DUniv(HonorisCausa)*] and an honorary Degree of Doctor of Laws [*DLawsUniv(HonorisCausa)*].
- 6.2.2 The titles referred to in Section 6.2.1 of this Statute are honorific titles only and not formal qualifications under the Australian Qualifications Framework. Accordingly, it is not permissible for an individual who is awarded an honorary degree to use the title "Doctor" or "Dr". The official award abbreviation as referenced in brackets in 6.2.1 may be cited as a post-nominal.
- 6.2.3 The Senate may approve the awarding of honorary degrees under Section 6.2.1 of this Statute to any person, whether or not such person has graduated at a university, on a recommendation of the Honorary Awards Committee.

Essential Criteria

- 6.2.4 All nominees proposed for consideration for an honorary degree must support the Mission of the University in addition to satisfying at least ONE of the following:
- (a) a person who has provided outstanding support to, or enhanced, the standing of the University or the Catholic Church; and/or
 - (b) a person of academic eminence; and/or
 - (c) a person demonstrating distinguished creative achievement; and/or
 - (d) a person who has provided an outstanding contribution beyond the expectations of the person's particular field of endeavour which has influenced the thinking or general wellbeing of the wider community.

Persons to Whom an Honorary Degree Should not be Awarded

- 6.2.5 Honorary degrees should not be awarded to the following persons:
- (a) Politicians in office.
 - (b) Visitors and scholars or visiting scholars, UNLESS they were / are at the University for an extended period and the Essential Criteria detailed in Section 6.2.4 has been satisfied **independently of their role** as a visitor / scholar / visiting scholar.
 - (c) Retiring Members of the ACU Senate, Professoriate, Corporation and others associated with the University, UNLESS the Essential Criteria detailed in Section 6.2.4 has been satisfied **independently of their role** as a Senator / Professor / Corporation Member / associate of the University.
- 6.2.6 Where Senate has resolved to award an honorary degree under Section 6.2.3 of this Statute, the degree shall be conferred at a graduation ceremony or other ceremonial occasion by the Vice-Chancellor and President or other Presiding Officer who shall first cite the grounds for such conferral.
- 6.2.7 With the exception of the Vice-Chancellor and President, Honorary Awards Committee members should not participate in the nomination process.
- 6.2.8 An honorary degree may be conferred in the absence of the candidate or posthumously subsequent to a resolution passed by the Senate.
- 6.2.9 Senate may make Regulations consistent with this Statute 6.2 prescribing the processes to be followed in relation to the nomination and conferral of honorary degrees.

ORIGINATED BY SENATE
RESOLUTION:
DATED:

491/83

29-30 October 1991

AMENDMENT NO:
SENATE RESOLUTION:
DATED:

11

S 2021/133

14 October 2021

COMMON SEAL AFFIXED
BY SECRETARY



SWELLES

6.3.1 Senate reserves the right to revoke an honorary degree conferred under Section 6.2.3 in accordance with this Statute 6.3.

6.3.2 Senate may, by resolution, revoke an honorary degree in circumstances where:

- (a) the details provided in support of the nomination are subsequently found to be false, inaccurate or incomplete; and/or
- (b) the person awarded the honorary degree has been convicted of a crime or offence under a law of Australia; and/or
- (c) the person awarded the honorary degree has behaved in such a way, whether before or after the conferral of the degree, that has brought or is likely to bring, the University into disrepute.

6.3.3 Any person awarded an honorary degree may relinquish the honorary degree at any time by notifying the Secretary in writing of that person's intention to relinquish the honorary degree. In all such cases Senate must accept the relinquishment of the honorary degree and shall resolve that the relinquishment takes effect from the date of the resolution of Senate.

6.3.4 Senate may make Regulations consistent with this Statute 6.3 prescribing the processes to be followed in relation to the making of a decision to revoke or accept the relinquishment of an honorary degree.



ORIGINATED BY SENATE RESOLUTION: S 2016/035
AMENDMENT NO: 1
SENATE RESOLUTION: S2017/107
DATED: 12 October 2017

COMMON SEAL AFFIXED BY SECRETARY

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to be 'J. WELLY', written over a horizontal line.