

BRUNEL UNIVERSITY LONDON

Council Ordinance 16

Honorary and Emeritus Awards

1. Honorary Degrees

1.1 On the recommendation of the Honorary Degrees Committee through the Senate, Council shall have the power to award the following honorary degrees:

- Doctor of Business (DBus)
- Doctor of Divinity (DD)
- Doctor of Education (DEd)
- Doctor of Engineering (DEng)
- Doctor of Humanities (DHum)
- Doctor of Letters (DLitt)
- Doctor of Music (DMus)
- Doctor of Social Sciences (DSocSci)
- Doctor of Science (DSc)
- Doctor of Technology (DTech)
- Doctor of the University (DUniv)
- Doctor of Laws (LLD)

1.2 In order to qualify for the award of the degree of doctor, candidates shall need to have exhibited:

- a) Outstanding scholarly achievement, usually recognised internationally;
- b) Outstanding service to the national or international community;

2. Honorary Fellowships

2.1 On the recommendation of the Honorary Degrees Committee through the Senate, Council shall have the power to award honorary fellowships to the following categories of individuals:

- a) National, international or local people or others who have established a close working relationship with the University and have thereby made a significant contribution to its development.
- b) retired staff (of any designation or grade) of the University who have given exceptional service to, or made a significant contribution to the activities, or the development of the University through the calibre and integrity of their work, and/or by demonstrating commitment of time, effort and loyalty to the institution. This contribution might have been, for example, to teaching and learning support activities or to the development of the University's work or profile with external bodies.

3. The Vice-Chancellor's Award (staff)

3.1 On the approval of the Honorary Degrees Committee, the Vice-Chancellor's Award shall be awarded to current members of staff in recognition of their exceptional achievements and/or service rendered to the University.

3.2 Nominations will normally be considered for individual members of staff. Nominations for the Vice-Chancellor's Award will be considered every year but not necessarily awarded.

4. The Vice-Chancellor's Award (student)

4.1 On the approval of the Honorary Degrees Committee, the Vice-Chancellor's Award shall be awarded to current students in recognition of their exceptional achievements and/or service rendered to the University.

4.2 Nominations will be considered for individual students, or for small groups of students. Nominations for the Vice-Chancellor's Award will be considered every year but not necessarily awarded.

5. Nomination rights for Honorary Degrees, Honorary Fellowships and the Vice-Chancellor's Awards

5.1 All current staff, current students, the Union of Brunel Students, members of Council and other members of the University are entitled to nominate persons to be considered for Honorary Degrees, Fellowships, and the Vice-Chancellor's Awards.

6. Philanthropic donations

6.1 While the University welcomes the support provided to the University by philanthropic donations, it does not confer honorary degrees or fellowships in return for such donations. For this reason, an individual who has made a philanthropic donation to the University will only be considered for the award of an honorary degree or fellowship if they satisfy the criteria for these awards.

7. Emeritus Professorships

7.1 Honorary Degrees Committee, through the Senate and the Council, shall have the power to confer the title of Emeritus Professor on any professor of the University on or after his/her retirement, subject to that person meeting the following criteria:

a) that the Professor should normally have retired from full-time or part time academic employment with the University;

b) that the Professor should have contributed to the life of the University or the wider community with distinction

c) be distinguished in their academic discipline and will have enhanced the reputation of the University through research, education, knowledge transfer or broader contributions to the University and society.

7.2 Within these criteria, a Professor who has retired from the University who no longer holds a current contract of full-time employment with the University or with another Institution will be eligible for consideration for conferral of the **title** of Emeritus Professor. Where an Emeritus Professor requires ongoing access to University Facilities, this should be considered via the separate "[Honorary and Visitors](#)".

7.3 An Emeritus Professor shall, for all purposes of courtesy and on ceremonial occasions, have the same privileges as a member of the Senate. S/he shall be a member of the University Court, but shall not be entitled to be a member of the Senate or any other University body.

7.4 An Emeritus Professor may additionally be appointed with an ongoing association with the University, via the “Honorary appointments” process, detailed in Policy and Procedure: Honorary and Visiting Academic Appointments.

7.5 Nominations for Emeritus Professorships should be formulated by the appropriate Vice-Provost & Dean who should initiate discussions with the Head of Department/Director of Institute concerning the conferment of the title. The Director of Human Resources, or their delegate, will confirm eligibility in terms of employment with the University to appropriate Vice-Provosts & Deans on receipt of the notification of a professor’s retirement. If it is agreed, the Vice-Provost & Dean should present a proposal to the Vice-Chancellor and President who will, if s/he concurs, submit the candidate's name to the Honorary Degrees Committee for approval. The Vice-Chancellor and President may confer the title of Emeritus Professor by Chair’s Action on behalf of Honorary Degrees Committee. All decisions concerning the conferment of the title of Emeritus Professorship shall be reported annually to the Senate and the Council.

8. Withdrawal of Honorary and Emeritus Awards

8.1 Council shall have the power to revoke the award of an honorary degree or fellowship where it is satisfied that the individual concerned has acted in such a way as to bring or be likely to bring the University into disrepute.

8.2 On the recommendation of the Senate, Council shall have the power to revoke the conferment of the title Emeritus Professor where it is satisfied that the individual concerned has acted in such a way as to bring or be likely to bring the University into disrepute.