

University of Saskatchewan
Terms of Reference for the Award
Of Doctorate Degrees for Scholarly Work
D.Litt. and D.Sc. Degrees

Statutory Authority:

The *University of Saskatchewan Act* gives the University power to grant degrees. The College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies approves and presents recipients of the Earned D.Sc. and Earned D.Litt. degrees under the authority from the Act through University Council Bylaws.

The College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies has established standing committees for the Earned D.Sc. and Earned D.Litt. These committees are responsible for recommending nominees for these degrees to the Graduate Faculty/Graduate Council for approval. The Earned degrees may be conferred at any Convocation provided that the names of such persons shall have been approved by Graduate Faculty/Graduate Council.

Principles/Statement of Purpose:

For more than a century, the members of the University of Saskatchewan convocation and the faculty members of the university have made impressive contributions to scholarship and the arts. The University wishes to recognize the achievements of pre-eminent members of the University of Saskatchewan academic community. The Earned Degree recognizes scholarly and artistic contributions of the highest calibre made by members of University convocation and/or faculty, contributions which in their quality and extent have won the admiration and respect of leading authorities in a particular area or areas of intellectual and creative endeavor. The work will have been found exceptional by others able to judge it.

Normally, one Earned D.Sc. and one Earned D.Litt. degree is conferred at each Convocation ceremony.

Guidelines for Eligibility:

- The degree is open to members of convocation of the University of Saskatchewan or current tenured and emeritus faculty members of the University of Saskatchewan.

Identification of Candidates

Possible candidates may come to the Earned Degree committees by nomination. Members of the committee may solicit nominations of those they view as worthy candidates.

Nominations

- Any member of the university community knowledgeable about research and scholarly activities in a particular area may identify and nominate possible candidates to the appropriate Committee.
- Nominators should not be members of the nominee's family.
- Nominations will take the form of a letter in which the salient reasons for the nomination are presented and must be accompanied by an up-to-date CV.
- Nominators should declare in the nomination the basis for their knowledge of the nominee's achievements.
- Nominations can include:
 - *other indicators of recognition and contributions including* publications, scholarly and artistic works, evidence of participation in national and international academic/research committees, grant support or other external support or

- recognition, particularly if obtained via national or international peer review competitions, awards
 - letters of support from recognized experts in the candidate's field of research
- Individuals who are members of the earned degrees committee may sign a nomination and may submit a letter of support, but having done so should declare a conflict of interest when the nomination is considered by the committee, and recuse themselves from discussion and decision.

Nominations should be addressed to the appropriate Earned Degree Committee in care of the Dean's Office, College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies, University of Saskatchewan. Nominations will be considered at the next scheduled meeting in either November, February and April.

Internal Review

The Earned Degree Committees will meet as required to review nominations. The Earned Degree Committees determine whether nominees go forward for external review.

External Review

For nominations selected for external review, the nominee will be asked to confirm in writing that they will allow their nomination to stand.

Nominees (who have agreed to stand) will be invited to provide a self-assessment of their most significant publications and accomplishments and any other material directly relevant for consideration for the award of the degree. Where possible, it is recommended that the publications be submitted electronically or digitally.

The candidate's complete file, along with publications, will be sent to at least three qualified reviewers, at least one of whom must be outside Canada, who are in a position to provide an expert and objective opinion on whether the candidate meets the standard for the earned degree. These opinions will be an important factor in the final decision of the DSc and DLitt Committees.

Decisions

The Earned Degree Committees will consider the reviewers' assessments and the materials reviewed to determine whether to:

- Recommend the candidate for approval to the CGPS Graduate Faculty/ Graduate Council for one of the earned degrees; or
- Decline the nomination.

The names of those recommended by the Earned Degree committees will be submitted to Graduate Faculty/Graduate Council for approval. Those approved for the awarding of a degree will be added to a reserve list of approved candidates maintained by the College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies. Wherever practical, degrees will be awarded within the year following approval by Graduate Faculty/Graduate Council.

Negative decisions will be communicated in writing to the nominator.

Publicizing the Nomination and the Award

The committees will not release the outcome of any individual nomination, except by making

a public announcement of the earned degree recipients for a particular Convocation. The names approved by the Graduate Faculty/Graduate Council will not be made public until this time.

It is the Dean's responsibility to advise in writing to the candidate of a positive decision made by the Earned Degree Committees and CGPS Council, to communicate CGPS recommendations for the award of the DSc and DLitt degrees to the University Secretary and to collaborate with the University Secretary in all necessary Convocation arrangements.

Awarding

Earned degrees can be awarded *in absentia*.

Earned degrees can be awarded posthumously only in the case of the potential recipient's nomination having been accepted and arrangements made for its awarding prior to the death of the nominee.

The citation for the earned degree is obtained by the College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies. The citation should be no longer than 400 words in length. In accordance with Graduate Council, "each recipient of an earned degree shall be presented the degree by the Dean or by a person designated for that purpose".

The gown worn by candidates for the earned degree is the black doctoral robe of the University of Saskatchewan, with green silk lining and white trim. The earned degree hood is green-lined with white trim. The University will make a gift of the earned degree hood to the candidate after the ceremony; the gown will be available on loan but is retained by the University.