

**Simon Fraser University**

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Memorandum

To: Senate

From: Ron Heath
Secretary, Senate Committee on
University Honours

Subject: Honorary Degrees to be Awarded

Date: May 17, 2002

At the December 2001 meeting of Senate at which the recommendations for 2002 Honorary Degrees were being considered, it was suggested that the University might consider awarding honorary degrees other than the sole current *Doctor of Laws, Honoris Causa*. There was a limited amount of discussion about whether some other honorary degree option might be more appropriate for specific honorary degree nominees. The matter was referred to the Senate Committee on University Honours for further discussion and recommendation to Senate.

The Senate Committee on University Honours met on Thursday, May 16, 2002 to discuss this question. The attached report summarizes the practices at selected universities across Canada and while it is apparent that there is a wide range being conferred, some in particular are more commonly offered. There was strong support in the Committee to increase the number of Honorary Degrees available for award to honorary degree recipients. Members noted that the availability of a broader range of honorary degree designations would allow the University to recognize the achievements and contributions of individuals more appropriately than is possible when all candidates receive a *Doctor of Laws, Honoris Causa*. At the same time, the members of the Committee did not support the introduction of an unlimited range of options.

Motion:

That Senate approve the following Honorary Degrees for award by the University:

- D.Litt. (letters) - for outstanding achievement in literature**
- D.Sc. (Science) - for outstanding achievement in science, engineering science, computing science, medicine**
- D.F.A. (Fine Arts)- for outstanding achievement in the fine and performing arts**
- LL.D. (Laws) - for outstanding achievement in other areas**

The Senate Committee on University Honours will make recommendations to Senate regarding both the names of individuals to be honoured and the degree to be awarded in each instance.

HONORARY DEGREES OFFERED AT OTHER INSTITUTIONS

(sorted by provinces)

(Jan. 11/02)

Degrees

Criteria

BC

Royal Roads University

Doctor of Laws

Trinity Western University*

• Laws (LL.D) • Divinity (D. Div) • Christian Ministries (D. Chr. Min.) • Humanities (D. Hum.) • Science (D. Sc.) • Philanthropy (D. Philant.)

*LL.D.: contrib. in the polit., legal, social, educ., or corporate arena(s) - D. Div.: contrib. in Christian theology or related academic work - D. Chr. Min.: contrib. in church and para-church orgs. - D. Hum.: contrib. in lit., arts, or academic areas other than theology or the sciences - D. Sc.: contrib. in the sciences or technol. - D. Philant.: philanthropic contrib. May include but would normally not be limited to gifts to the University.

University of British Columbia

• LL.D • D.Litt • D.Sc

University of Victoria

• DLitt • DEd • DEng • DFA
• D.Mus • DSc • DSN • LLD

ALTA

University of Alberta

• LLD • DLitt • DSc

University of Calgary

LLD

University of Lethbridge

• LLD (Laws) • DLitt (Letters) • DFA (Fine Arts) • DHu (Humanities) • DDA (Arts) • DSc (Science) • DAsC (Arts and Science)

ON

Carleton University

• LL.D • D.Litt • D.Music • D.Fine Arts • D.Sc • D. Eng • D.Arch

Lakehead University

Doctors of: • Civil Law • Commerce • Education • Engineering • Fine Arts • Laws • Social Work • Humane Letters • Letters • Music • Science

McMaster University

Doctors of: • Divinity • Laws • Letters • Science

Nipissing University

Doctors of: • Education • Letters

Ryerson Polytechnic Institute

Doctors of: • Letters • Engineering • Laws • Commerce • Science • Journalism

Trent University*

Doctors of: • Letters • Laws

*Doctor of Letters: generally reserved for writers - Doctor of Laws: for everyone else

HONORARY DEGREES OFFERED AT OTHER INSTITUTIONS

(sorted by provinces)

(Jan. 11/02)

Degrees

Criteria

University of Guelph Doctors of: • Laws •
Science • Music • Letters

University of Toronto Doctors of: • Laws • Science
• Engineering • Letters •
Architecture

University of Western
Ontario • D.Sc. • D. Litt. • D. Mus. •
D.C.L. • D.D. • LL.D

University of Windsor Doctors of: • Humanities •
Music • Laws • Civil Laws •
Science • Letters

Wilfrid Laurier University Doctors of: • Laws • Letters
• Science • Divinity

York University Doctors of: • Laws • Letters
• Science

QC Bishop's University Doctor of Civil Law

Concordia University* • LLD • DLitt

*November ceremony, one degree awarded to
a non-faculty specific choice
June ceremonies: cases are choices specifically
nominated by each of the four faculties

McGill University • DSc • DMus • DD • LLD •
DLitt

PEI University of Prince Edward
Island • LLD • DLitt

NS Saint Mary's University Doctors of: • Commerce •
Laws • Civil Law • Science •
Letters

NFLD Memorial University of
Newfoundland • LL.D (Laws) • D.Litt
(Letters) • D.Sc (Science) •
M.A. (Master of Arts),/ •
D.Engr (Engineering)