

## Faculty of Environment Guidelines for Nomination for an Honorary Degree

The University of Waterloo confers honorary degrees, *honoris causa*, for scholarly/professional achievement or for service to society. In so doing, the University recognizes outstanding individuals who personify the core values of the relevant Faculty and/or the University and exemplify the personal and professional characteristics to which we wish our students to aspire.

The Faculty of Environment's vision is "to use our unique position as a leading teaching and research institute for the environment to create sustainable solutions needed to address the complex challenges facing our world". This vision is reflected in the individuals who are nominated by the Faculty of Environment for honorary degrees. In nominating individuals for either scholarly/professional achievement (DES, Doctor of Environmental Studies) or service to society (LLD, Doctor of Laws), the Faculty makes a public declaration of its values, and recognizes individuals that are of such calibre that, in honouring them, it too is honoured.

Nominees will have achieved national or international recognition for their achievements as:

- Leading academics in disciplines that connect with the Faculty's vision and/or programs;
- Visionary leaders in the private, public and/or not-for-profit sectors;
- Outstanding individuals who are prominent in the community or the professions.

It is not required that nominees have a direct connection with the University of Waterloo, but there should be a compelling reason why this particular university should confer its highest honour on an individual at a particular time.

A nomination that may possibly be controversial will need to answer the question: "*Is the Faculty of Environment and the University of Waterloo willing to deal with any and all possible consequences?*"

Serving politicians, either Canadian or foreign, are not excluded from consideration for honorary degrees. Sensitive, however, to the perception of government influence on institutional autonomy and academic freedom, the committee will look for evidence in nominees of: exceptional service or leadership over an extended period in public life; general (as distinct from partisan) esteem; and a strong reason why the University of Waterloo in particular should confer the honour.

