

Nathan S. Evans, Ed.D.
Deputy Vice Chancellor, Academic and Student Affairs
Chief Academic Officer
CSU Office of the Chancellor
401 Golden Shore, Long Beach, CA 90802

October 6, 2023

MEMORANDUM

TO: CSU Presidents

FROM: Nathan S. Evans, Ed.D.
Deputy Vice Chancellor, Academic and Student Affairs
Chief Academic Officer

SUBJECT: Recommendations for 2023-24 Honorary Degrees Due November 29, 2023



Response Requested by
November 29, 2023

This memorandum serves as the annual call for campus recommendations for the award of honorary doctoral degrees by the Board of Trustees of the California State University. Please review and adhere closely to the enclosed guidelines for honorary doctorates. We strongly encourage campus selection committees to consider diversity in selecting nominees. If a nomination would require an exception to the guidelines, please obtain the chancellor's approval *before* submitting the nomination. As recipients may only receive a CSU honorary degree once, we have attached for your reference the complete list of CSU honorary doctorates awarded since 1963.

Board of Trustees policy allows only two recommendations for honorary degree awards from each CSU campus. Campus nominations will be vetted and sent to the Board of Trustees Subcommittee on Honorary Degrees for review, in preparation for the January 30-31, 2024 board meeting. The conferral of honorary degrees is expected to take place during spring 2024 commencements.

By November 29, 2023, please submit electronic Word documents to kochoa@calstate.edu:

- 1. Up to two nomination letters for honorary degree awards;**
- 2. Very brief supporting documentation for each nominee; and**
- 3. A 300-400-word summary for each nomination to be used as the basis for the campus commencement citation.**

CSU Campuses
Bakersfield
Channel Islands
Chico
Dominguez Hills
East Bay

Fresno
Fullerton
Humboldt
Long Beach
Los Angeles
Maritime Academy

Monterey Bay
Northridge
Pomona
Sacramento
San Bernardino
San Diego

San Francisco
San José
San Luis Obispo
San Marcos
Sonoma
Stanislaus

Recommendations for 2023-24 Honorary Degrees Due November 29, 2023

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Page 2 of 2

Please include all of the following information in your letters of nomination:

- The full name of the nominee exactly as it will be read on the degree and a brief summary of the reasons for putting forth the recommendation. Please see the attached “Guidelines for the Awarding of Honorary Degrees in the California State University” sections II-IV for guidance on the purposes, criteria and limitations for honorary degree nominations.
- The degree for which the individual is nominated:
 - Doctor of Fine Arts (D.F.A.)
 - Doctor of Humane Letters (L.H.D.)
 - Doctor of Laws (LL.D.)
 - Doctor of Letters (Litt.D.)
 - Doctor of Science (Sc.D.)
- A 300-400-word summary for each nomination to be used as the basis for the campus commencement citation.
- For each nominee, a current brief curriculum vitae (or comparable biographical information).
- A brief description of the nature of the relationship if the nominee has a well-established relationship with the campus.
- Listing of the campus committee members who reviewed the nomination (members’ names and titles).
- Confirmation that the Executive Committee of the campus Academic Senate was consulted regarding the composition of the campus review committee.
- The event at which the degree is to be conferred. If it is proposed that the degree be conferred at an event other than commencement, please identify the appropriate CSU function at which the degree will be conferred.
- Whether the campus prefers that the degree be awarded:
 - a. in the name of the California State University or
 - b. in the names of the California State University and the campus.

Please submit **Word** versions of the nomination letters (no signature required) to kochoa@calstate.edu.

As we all recognize the need for the strictest confidence in dealing with campus nominations, I assure you that you will have our full cooperation in maintaining the necessary confidences. If you have any questions please contact Dr. Brent Foster, assistant vice chancellor and state university dean, Academic Programs, at (562) 951-4149 or bfoster@calstate.edu.

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Recommendations for 2023-24 Honorary Degrees Due November 29, 2023

October 6, 2023

Page 3 of 3

Attachments

NSE/bf

- c: Wenda Fong, Chair, Board of Trustees
 Diego Arambula, Chair, Committee on Educational Policy
 Mildred Garcia, Chancellor
 Dilcie Perez, Deputy Vice Chancellor, Academic and Student Affairs
 Brent Foster, Assistant Vice Chancellor and State University
 Dean, Academic Programs
 Beth Steffel, Chair, Academic Senate
 Rachel Corell, Deputy Chief of Staff and Director of
 Board Operations, Office of the Board of Trustees