

HONORARY DEGREES COMMITTEE

Approval Authority: Senate

Reports To: Senate

Established: 2024 12 12

Amendments: October 9, 2025

1. Purpose

The purpose of the **Honorary Degrees Committee** (“Committee”) is to oversee the nomination of candidates for honorary degrees and to advise Senate on the awarding and revocation of honorary degrees. The Committee shall ensure that, over time, honorary degrees recommended and awarded are balanced and reflect the University’s commitment to equity and diversity. The University values the history and traditions of academia and understands the importance of establishing criteria and a process for the awarding of honours to distinguish individuals in recognition of extraordinary achievement.

2. Responsibilities

Subject to the terms of the Honorary Degrees Policy, the Committee is responsible for the following:

- Developing the procedural rules which are consistent with the Honorary Degree Policy and Terms of Reference of Committee.
- Reviewing the nomination packages and determine which, if any, individuals on the Nominees List meet the minimum eligibility criteria of the Honorary Degree.
- Creating a shortlist of Nominees for the Honorary Degree.
- Selecting from the short list any nominations that are to be carried over on the Standing List.
- Recommending from the shortlist, the nominee for Honorary Degree to the Senate.
- Reviewing requests to revoke honorary degrees and making a formal recommendation to Senate with rationale.
- Reviewing the Honorary Degree Policy, process and terms of reference of the committee and recommend changes to Senate as required.
- Execute other tasks as directed by Senate.

3. Composition

The membership of the Committee should be balanced and reflect the University’s special mission and commitment to equity and diversity. The composition of the committee is as follows:

- President
- Provost and Vice President, Academic
- Three faculty members elected by Senate: one from each Division (Medical Sciences, Human Sciences, Clinical Sciences) (no fewer than 1 shall be full time faculty)

- One learner appointed from Senate.
- Up to two members appointed from the Board of Governors
- One NOSM University Alumnus appointed by the Provost

University Members included to support the committee (non-voting):

- Registrar
- University Secretary
- Associate Vice President External Relations

The term for membership is three years (renewable) except for the learners which shall be two years (non-renewable).

Administrative assistance will be appointed by the President or Provost as required.

4. Chair and Vice-Chair

- The President shall serve as Chair of the Committee.
- The Provost shall serve as Vice-Chair of the Committee and act for the Chair in the Chair's absence.

5. Reporting

The Committee shall report to the Senate and to the Board as required.

6. Meetings and Quorum

Quorum is a simple majority of voting members. Committee deliberations will be confidential and conducted in closed meetings.

Review Period: 3 years or as required.

Next Review: 2028 10 09