

# ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE

## Southwestern Oregon Community College

### AP 4110      Honorary Degrees

It is the Administrative policy of Southwestern Oregon Community College to offer Honorary Associate's Degrees to honor meritorious and outstanding service to the College and/or to the community at large; or in absentia and posthumously when a student is within 24 credit hours of their degree at the time of death (see APP 8193 Deceased Student).

#### **Meritorious Honorary Degree**

A student earning an honorary degree to honor a significant, noteworthy contribution to the college and/or to the community at large may be recommended by the President or a member of the Board of Education. The following are areas in which individuals may have made significant contribution:

- Educational Service: recognizing outstanding service that enhances educational opportunities for the area or that gives personal assistance that leads to the success of individuals in higher education.
- Humanitarian Service: recognizing outstanding altruism that enhances the quality of life for others in the area.
- Servant Leadership: recognizing outstanding service in any area of leadership and that benefits others and/or enhances their leadership capabilities.
- Arts and Culture: recognizing outstanding contributions to the arts in any form that enhances the quality of life in the area.
- Entrepreneurial Leadership: recognizing outstanding contributions to business/industry through creative start-ups of new enterprises or through innovative management in business or industry.

In general, no more than two honorary degrees will be awarded to the same student.

Honorary degrees may be issued as one of the following:

- Associate of Arts (A.A.)
- Associate of Science (A.S.)
- Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.)
- Associate of General Science (A.G.S.)

#### **Procedures for the Nomination and Selection of Meritorious Honorary Degree Recipients**

- Coordination of the nomination and selection process for honorary degree recipients is the responsibility of the College President who shall consult with delegate representatives from:
  - Faculty (2)
  - Associated Student Government (1)
  - SWOCC Foundation

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- Nominations for honorary degree recipients will be encouraged and accepted from any member of the College community, including students, faculty, staff, alumni, board members, and friends of the College.
- Each nomination must include the nomination form and letter of support. Nomination forms may be obtained from the Office of the President or the College website and must be submitted by the published deadline.
- The President (or her/his designee) will meet with the delegate representatives to review all nomination packets received and to make a recommendation to the College President for awarding the honorary degree.
- The President (or her/his designee) will notify the recipient(s) of their honorary degree award and extend an invitation to receive their award as part of Commencement.

### **Posthumous Honorary Degree**

A student is awarded a posthumous honorary degree in the event of their passing while currently enrolled and within 24 credit hours of graduating. The Registrar will initiate the process and work with the Transcript Evaluator to provide the diploma to the student's next of kin within one month of the student's death.

Adopted by Board of Education:

Policy #9.036 April 24, 1970

Changed to Administrative Policy January 22, 1996

Revised: May 2, 2018 (Formerly Admin. Policy 8.002)

Updated number: October 20, 2023 (Formerly APP 8049)

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