

HONORARY DEGREES

Criteria and Procedures

Conferral

Conferral of honorary degrees should be made only upon ceremonial occasions of the College and should normally be made at commencement exercises.

Number of Awards

The number of honorary degrees awarded should remain small since the award should be given only to persons of exceptional merit.

Eligibility

Consideration should be given to qualified candidates without regard to race, color, sex, creed, or national origin.

Consideration should be given to the fact that the recipient of the degree is forever associated with the College and must, therefore, be of such stature and character so as to honor the College by receiving the honorary degree.

Recipients should be selected with special concern for eminent public stature, and for broadness of contribution.

Candidates should have qualities and records of achievement which make it particularly appropriate that they be recognized by an educational institution and especially appropriate for the recognition to come from Christopher Newport College.

Ineligibility

Among those to be considered ineligible for an honorary degree from the College are the members of the Board of Visitors, present employees of the College, and prospective benefactors, unless they clearly meet the other criteria for degree consideration. In addition, emeriti faculty and former members of the Board should be considered for honorary degrees only on an exceptional basis.

Procedure

The conferring of an honorary degree is legally a function of the Board. The Board may, however, seek suggestions from the broader college community,

and may establish procedures through which such suggestions may be received.

Nominations

Nominations should be presented no later than February 1 for the June commencement and no later than September 1 for the January commencement.

Security of Information

In no way should anyone other than the Board or the President be informed that an individual is under consideration for an honorary degree. No supporting letter should be sought nor telephone calls made to check the quality of credentials.

Public Announcement

Public announcement of awards is to be handled exclusively through the office of the Rector of the Board or the President of the College.