



THE WORLD INDIGENOUS NATIONS UNIVERSITY (WINU)

HONORARY DOCTORATES

DUE: Annually by March 31

In the spirit of Hope and a Vision for a Better Future to come, the WINU Executive Committee, in conjunction with the WINHEC Executive Co-Chairs, invite nominations for the WINU Honorary Doctorates. And in furtherance of the principles and intent of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the WINU Executive Committee call upon WINU and WINHEC Member Countries and their Indigenous education support networks to nominate eligible individuals for the WINU Honorary Doctorates that are described here. This also includes the awarding of Posthumous Honorary Doctorates for outstanding and significant achievements to individuals who have worked tirelessly and contributed significantly to Indigenous Rights and Indigenous knowledges in any of the WINHEC member countries or other Indigenous nations.

WINU Honorary Doctorates

The WINU Executive Committee are pleased to announce the ‘**CALL for WINU Honorary Doctorates**’ that advances WINU’s Objectives and Goals stated in the WINU Constitution, including to:

1. [Objective 1]: Provide an international forum to support Indigenous peoples to pursue common objectives and goals through education and as a result confer academic honours as recognition of such academic pursuit.
2. [Goal 11 (c) and (d)]: Confer higher degree academic awards on Indigenous scholars and students on the completion of the appropriate examination or assessment procedures and

/ or on the recommendation of regional committees and on the approval of the Chancellor in the following categories:

- Honorary Doctorate through lifelong academic endeavours for the benefit of their own Indigenous communities;
- Honorary Doctorate to Indigenous Elders (Knowledge Holders) of member countries in recognition of their long standing contributions to Indigenous scholarship;
- Posthumous Honorary Doctorate through lifelong academic endeavours for the benefit of their own Indigenous communities; and
- Posthumous Honorary Doctorate to Indigenous Elders (Knowledge Holders) of member countries in recognition of their long standing contributions to Indigenous scholarship and Indigenous Rights.

Categories of WINU Honorary Doctorates:

There are two (4) categories:

- A. Honorary Doctorate to Indigenous Educators or Indigenous-serving Educators – EdD (Doctor of Education), and
- B. Honorary Doctorate to Indigenous Elders/Knowledge Holders – EdD (Doctor of Education for Indigenous Knowledge & Development).
- C. Posthumous Honorary Doctorate to Indigenous Educators or Indigenous-serving Educators – EdD (Doctor of Education), and
- D. Posthumous Honorary Doctorate to Indigenous Elders/Knowledge Holders – EdD (Doctor of Education for Indigenous Knowledge & Development).

These WINU Honorary Doctorates are recognitions that honour and celebrate outstanding individuals who have made exceptional contributions to Indigenous community/ies; and to national and/or international levels to the advancement of higher education for Indigenous peoples, communities, and nations.

Those nominated for these prestigious credentials are considered worthy individuals for their many years (30 years or more) of service, to the protection, preservation, and progression of Indigenous education at the community, local, national and/or international level.

Nomination forms should be submitted separately to the WINU Honorary Doctorates Review Committee, for the two categories of honours.

WINU Honorary Doctorates Regulations

The conferral of WINU Honorary Doctorates are confirmed in the WINU CONSTITUTION, Objective 1; and Goal 11(c) and (d).

WINU will confer, upon the recommendation of the WINU Honorary Doctorates Review Committee, and through the approval of the WINU Executive Committee, the WINU Honorary Doctorates, as described below:

- (a) **Honorary Doctorate to Indigenous Educators or Indigenous-serving Educators** who have served distinguished academic careers exemplary in scholarship, research, and/or teaching beneficial to and inspiration for higher educational aspiration, achievement and attainment for Indigenous peoples and communities at the local, national and/or international level.
- (b) **Honorary Doctorate to Indigenous Elders/Knowledge Holders** who are members of WINHEC and/or WINU affiliated institutions, communities, and countries, who are known and respected by their Indigenous communities to be deep reservoirs of ancestral knowledge and wisdom, and who build bridges for our Indigenous youth and communities, firmly grounded in cultural ways and teachings, while navigating safely through contemporary life and challenges.
- (c) **Posthumous Honorary Doctorate to Indigenous Educators or Indigenous-serving Educators** who have served distinguished academic careers exemplary in scholarship, research, and/or teaching beneficial to and inspiration for higher educational aspiration, achievement and attainment for Indigenous peoples and communities at the local, national and/or international level.
- (d) **Posthumous Honorary Doctorate to Indigenous Elders/Knowledge Holders** who have contributed significantly to Indigenous Rights and Indigenous Knowledges in any of the WINHEC member countries, who are known and respected by their Indigenous communities to be deep reservoirs of ancestral knowledge and wisdom, and who built bridges for our Indigenous youth and communities, firmly grounded in cultural ways and teachings, while navigating safely through life and challenges.

WINU Honorary Doctorate Process

To make all applications comparable, the following information is required:

A. Honorary Doctorate to Indigenous Educators or Indigenous-serving Educators – Doctor of Education (EdD) for Indigenous Education

It is recommended that the candidate be:

- ✓ Male or female, at least 50 years of age or older;
- ✓ Has served as an outstanding educator for over 30 years locally, nationally or internationally;
- ✓ Has served as a leader of an education institution both nationally and internationally;
- ✓ Has been influential nationally and internationally regarding Indigenous education;
- ✓ Is well supported by their own community; and
- ✓ Supported (in writing) by at least three community members.

B. Honorary Doctorate to Indigenous Elders/Knowledge Holders – Doctor of Education (EdD) for Indigenous Knowledge and Development

It is accepted that Indigenous Elders are those considered as such by their community, age 50 or older, and are recognized as a keeper/holder/carrier of traditional knowledge, despite their age or gender (male or female).

It is recommended that the candidate be:

- ✓ recognised by his/her community as a keeper/holder/carrier of Indigenous knowledge, and has freely shared this knowledge with the community, and has helped to interpret this knowledge into everyday usage to the Indigenous community, in particular;
- ✓ is acknowledged and admired by his/her own people, and many of the young and old have sought their advice on Indigenous matters;
- ✓ may or may not have been recognised by local universities as a keeper/holder/carrier of Indigenous knowledge; and
- ✓ confirmed by their local Indigenous community / peoples as being held in high regard and respect.

C. Posthumous Honorary Doctorate to Indigenous Educators or Indigenous-serving Educators – Doctor of Education (EdD) for Indigenous Education

It is recommended that the candidate be:

- ✓ Male or female, at least 50 years of age or older;
- ✓ Has served as an outstanding educator for over 30 years locally, nationally or internationally;
- ✓ Has served as a leader of an education institution both nationally and internationally;
- ✓ Has been influential nationally and internationally regarding Indigenous education;
- ✓ Is well supported by their own community; and
- ✓ Supported (in writing) by at least three community members.

D. Honorary Doctorate to Indigenous Elders/Knowledge Holders – Doctor of Education (EdD) for Indigenous Knowledge and Development

It is accepted that Indigenous Elders are those considered as such by their community, age 50 or older, and are recognized as a keeper/holder/carrier of traditional knowledge, despite their age or gender (male or female).

It is recommended that the candidate be:

- ✓ recognised by his/her community as a keeper/holder/carrier of Indigenous knowledge, and has freely shared this knowledge with the community, and has helped to interpret this knowledge into everyday usage to the Indigenous community, in particular;
- ✓ is acknowledged and admired by his/her own people, and many of the young and old have sought their advice on Indigenous matters;
- ✓ may or may not have been recognised by local universities as a keeper/holder/carrier of Indigenous knowledge; and
- ✓ confirmed by their local Indigenous community / peoples as being held in high regard and respect.

CONFIRMED TIMELINE FOR NOMINATIONS AND NOTIFICATION TO APPROVED RECIPIENTS:-

All nominations for the WINU Honorary Doctorate degrees will be processed in accordance to the following timeline:

- a. **March 31.** Nominations submitted to WINU by Member Country/Nation/ State representatives by email to winuenquiries@gmail.com
- b. **June 30.** Recipients confirmed / notified by the WINU Honorary Doctorates Review Committee for recommendation to the WINU Executive Board.
- c. **At AGM.** Awards Conferral held during the WINHEC/WINU Annual General Meeting, as scheduled each year. More information will be available on the WINHEC and WINU websites regarding the location of the AGM.

NOTE: If an Awardee is not able to attend in person, arrangements can be made for In-Country Honorary Doctorate Award Ceremony.

NOTE: Posthumous Honorary Doctorates can be awarded during the AGM conferences and also in the awardee's own community.

Thank you for your support of this very important and worthy recognition.
