



Policy on Honorary Degrees

Office of Academic Affairs

Policy Document Number: AA-03.1-2025

Adopted by the Board of Regents: January 31, 2025

Policy Purpose: This policy creates a process by which the Institute may confer honorary degrees.

POLICY STATEMENT

Policy Statement:

The purpose of the honorary degree is to recognize individuals by awarding special honors to persons whom have contributed significantly to the cultural, educational, or scientific development of programs or services at NMT, as well as those eminent individuals and scholars whose contributions are of more general significance and transcend geographic limitations. Honorary degrees are awarded based on recommendations from the Honorary Degree and Awards (HD&A) committee or the NMT President. These recommendations require the concurrence of the Faculty Senate, Vice President of Academic Affairs, and the President, followed by final approval from the Board of Regents.

It is not the Institute's policy to award honorary degrees to currently employed faculty, staff or administration, though exceptional cases shall not be precluded from being considered for the award.

The award of an honorary degree to a person seeking or holding a political office shall not constitute endorsement by NMT. Political involvement shall not prevent consideration of an individual for an honorary degree.

The authority to revoke a previously awarded honorary degree rests with the Board of Regents. The Board of Regents may revoke an honorary degree if, in its judgment, the recipient of the degree has engaged in conduct that either:

- is inconsistent with NMT's mission and/or values,
- undermines the accomplishments that were cited as the basis for awarding the honorary degree,
- damages the reputation of NMT, or
- violates widely accepted ethical standards or laws.

Revocation of an honorary degree is a serious action that shall be undertaken only in extraordinary circumstances where the recipient's conduct warrants such a response. The Board of Regents' decision to revoke an honorary degree may be supported by the President's recommendation, made after an evaluation of the necessity for such action using similar procedures followed for the nomination and selection of honorary degree recipients.

The President's recommendation shall include consultation with faculty, staff, and other relevant stakeholders as appropriate, ensuring a fair and thorough evaluation process. The evaluation will assess the recipient's actions based on documented evidence, alignment with institutional policies, and the impact on NMT's mission and reputation.

Required Process:

Selection and appointment of the HD&A Committee members is the annual responsibility of the Faculty Senate's Nominating Committee. The NMT Faculty Senate elects the committee's members at the start of each academic year. The HD&A Committee is composed of three

faculty members, each of whom serves a two-year term with a one, two member rotation.

The Nominating Committee selects faculty members to replace the HD&A Committee members who have either completed their term or are no longer employed by the Institute or for any other reason are no longer members of the HD&A Committee. Following committee members' selection, the Nominating Committee shall request that approval of the new committee be included for vote no later than the October Faculty Senate meeting agenda. The HD&A Committee shall then elect its chairperson for that academic year.

Mahyar Amouzegar

Mahyar Amouzegar (Apr 9, 2025 06:58 HST)

Mahyar A. Amouzegar
President

Jerry Armijo

Jerry Armijo (Apr 9, 2025 09:27 MDT)

Jerry Armijo, Chair
Board of Regents










AA.03.1.HonoraryDegreePolicy (Final)


Final Audit Report

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