



Appointment of honorary doctors¹

The decision to implement these guidelines was made by the Faculty Board on June 12, 2024. The guidelines came into effect on the same day.

Registration number HS 2024/477

¹ This is a translation of the Swedish version (Utnämmande av hedersdoktorer, registration number HS 2024/454.) In the event of any discrepancy, the Swedish version of this document shall prevail.

Table of contents

- 1 Introduction..... 3
- 2 Who can become an honorary doctor? 3
- 3 Preparation process 4
 - 3.1 Nomination 4
 - 3.2 Decision..... 4
- 4 Conferment..... 5
- 5 Effective date..... 5

1 Introduction

Honorary Doctors (Doctores Honoris Causa, Dr. h.c.) can be appointed within the fields where the University of Skövde (the University) has the right to confer doctoral degrees. The same prefix used for degrees within the respective field at the University is used for honorary doctorates². An honorary doctorate entitles the individual to use the title Dr. h.c. The purpose of appointing honorary doctors is to honor individuals who have promoted research at the University, made significant scientific contributions, or otherwise contributed to areas where the University has the right to confer doctoral degrees. The aim is also to connect honorary doctors with the research community at the University. Honorary doctors serve as ambassadors for the University. Honorary doctors are conferred during the University's academic ceremony.

The honorary doctorate must not be awarded as a quid pro quo for, for example, gifts and financial contributions.

2 Who can become an honorary doctor?

Both individuals holding a doctoral degree and those without a doctoral degree can be appointed as honorary doctors.

An individual may be appointed as an honorary doctor if they:

- Have promoted research at the University within the relevant field or have had significant importance for the University's international collaborations. This should have been achieved through collaboration with researchers at the University.
- Or have had a significant influence as a source of inspiration for the scientific development within the field.
- In ways other than through research notably have advanced the development within the field.
- Have achieved outstanding literary, artistic, or societal accomplishments related to the field.

Individuals holding a doctoral degree from the University of Skövde, or who are (or have been) employed at the University, cannot be appointed as honorary doctors.

An individual holding a foreign doctoral degree may be conferred an honorary doctorate within the same field as the foreign degree. This means that the honorary doctor may become an honorary Doctor of Philosophy at the University of Skövde even if they already hold a

² For the field of information technology, this means that either of the prefixes "filosofie" or "teknologie" can be used.

Doctor of Philosophy degree. The same applies to a foreign Doctor of Technology degree.

If someone has already been appointed as an honorary Doctor of Philosophy at a higher education institution in Sweden, they cannot be appointed as an honorary Doctor of Philosophy at the University. Similarly, this applies to someone who has been appointed as an honorary Doctor of Technology. However, they can be appointed as an honorary doctor with the other prefix³

Honorary doctorates cannot be awarded as a quid pro quo for financial contributions, gifts, or similar; nor can doctorates be awarded to someone who holds political or legal influence over the University. An honorary doctorate cannot be awarded posthumously.

3 Preparation process

3.1 Nomination

All employees at the University can nominate honorary doctors. Nominations are submitted to the Dean. The nomination period and the method of submitting nominations are determined by the Dean and communicated internally at the University.

Nominations must be accompanied by a popular science-formulated justification of 100–150 words, which can serve as the basis for the final justification text in press releases and promotional material. The proposal should also include the complete postal address, telephone number, and email of the proposed individual.

3.2 Decision

Decisions regarding the appointment of honorary doctors are made by the Faculty Board. Discretion should be exercised in appointing honorary doctors. The Dean is responsible for preparing the matter and ensuring that the conditions are met before a decision on honorary doctorates is made. The case preparation is confidential, and only the decision of the board is made public.

A gender equality perspective should be considered in the appointment of honorary doctors.

In special cases, an honorary doctorate can be revoked. The Faculty Board decides on revocation.

³ For the field of information technology, this means that either of the prefixes "filosofie" or "teknologie" can be used.

4 Conferment

Honorary doctors are conferred during the University's academic ceremony. For a person to be appointed as an honorary doctor, they must attend the ceremony to receive the insignia. An honorary doctor cannot be conferred in absentia

5 Effective date

The decision to implement these guidelines was made by the Faculty Board on June 12, 2024 and are effective from the same date. This document replaces the guidelines for the appointment of honorary doctors at the University of Skövde from June 8, 2022 (Registration number HS 2022/458).