OP 30.08: Honorary Degrees

DATE: June 2, 2020

PURPOSE: The purpose of this Operating Policy/Procedure (OP) is to ensure understanding and a standardized approach regarding honorary degrees.

REVIEW: This OP will be reviewed in May of even-numbered years by the Vice Provost for Academic Affairs and the Senior Vice Provost with substantive revisions presented to the Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs by June 30.

POLICY/PROCEDURE

The following policy on honorary degrees has been adopted by the Board of Regents (see Section 12.04, Regents’ Rules for detailed procedures).

1. Honorary degrees conferred by Texas Tech University must be recommended by the President to the Chancellor and authorized by the Board of Regents.

2. Honorary degrees may be conferred for public service, scholarship, or other contributions in the public interest.

3. Nominations for honorary degrees may be made by faculty, staff, or members of the Board of Regents.

4. No person actively associated with the TTU system at the time of the award will be considered for an honorary degree.

5. Honorary degrees will be awarded only at commencement exercises.

6. Nominations will be evaluated by an advisory committee appointed by the President, with administrative, faculty, and student representation, and recommendations will be made to the President.

7. The Chancellor will inform the board of nominations at least one month prior to the board meeting when candidates are scheduled to be considered for approval.