



September 9, 2009

To: Members of the University Community

From: Leslie A. Fehrenbach
Secretary of the University

Subject: Call for 2011 Honorary Degree and Commencement Speaker Nominations

The Faculty Committee on Honorary Degrees, consisting of representatives from all three campuses, is now accepting honorary degree and commencement speaker nominations for University Commencement to be held in May 2011. Dr. Dorothy L. Hodgson, a professor in the Department of Anthropology, will chair the committee. Nominations will be accepted until Friday, October 2, 2009.

An honorary degree is one of the most prestigious honors the university can bestow on an individual. Nominees should be individuals of outstanding national or international acclaim. They should add to the distinction and tradition of the university and should have attained scholarly excellence or made major contributions to society in their field. Since the commencement speaker will also be awarded an honorary degree, nominations for the commencement speaker should follow the same guidelines as honorary degree candidates. Nominators should also ensure that all nominees are individuals whose accomplishments support the ideals of Rutgers. Honorary degrees may be awarded in four categories based upon the standards listed below:

- Doctor of Laws: Distinguished service to state or to nation, to learning or to humankind, coupled with intellectual gifts and moral qualities that entitle the recipient to rank with persons of culture and high principle.
- Doctor of Letters or Doctor of Fine Arts: Distinguished service to letters, art, music or education, coupled with intellectual and moral qualities that are widely recognized.
- Doctor of Science: Distinguished service to science, coupled with personal qualities and a kind of learning that entitle the recipient to recognition by a learned educational body of high standing.
- Doctor of Humane Letters: Distinguished service of a general nature, coupled with personal qualities and a kind of learning that entitle the recipient to recognition by a learned educational body of high standing.

All members of the university community are invited to nominate candidates for consideration. Nominations will be kept confidential and nominees should not be contacted. Information on the honorary degree nomination process is available at:

<http://ruweb.rutgers.edu/governance/secretary/hondegrees.shtml>.

Nominations must be submitted using a standardized Honorary Degree and Commencement Speaker Nomination Form along with appropriate biographical information or a curriculum vitae, if available, and/or other supporting material. If you have nominated someone in the past and would like that person to be reconsidered this year, please renominate the individual by sending an email or letter along with any updated supporting materials. You may send nominations (and renominations) and supporting documentation electronically to secretary@oldqueens.rutgers.edu or by U. S. Postal Service or campus mail to:

Faculty Committee on Honorary Degrees
c/o Office of the Secretary of the University
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
7 College Avenue
Winants Hall, Room 112, College Avenue Campus
New Brunswick, NJ 08901-1260

We welcome your participation in this important university process. If you have questions on the nomination or selection process, please contact me at secretary@oldqueens.rutgers.edu or 732-932-7434.

Sincerely,

Leslie A. Fehrenbach
Secretary of the University