



# Honorary Degree Withdrawal Procedure

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## Principles underpinning the procedure

In recognition of the need to guard against (a) a proliferation of proposals for withdrawal and (b) an honorary graduate falling foul of populist thinking the following principles underpin the procedure:

- Any review of an Honorary Degree can only be considered on receipt of substantial new information which, for good reason, was not available previously.
- The situation and values of the time of award conferment remain the relevant considerations.
- Non application posthumously.

## Procedure

There are essentially four parts to the procedure the; 1) proposal, 2) review mechanism, 3) decision and 4) communication to the degree holder.

### 1. Proposal

A majority vote and where appropriate quorate general meeting of EUSA the University Court or the General Council (not the Business Committee thereof) propose an Honorary Degree for review to the Honorary Degree Committee. Wherever possible the proposal is considered under confidential business.

The Principal has the right to refer any case for review.

In proposing the case for review any of the aforementioned groups are required to provide substantial grounds for the review. Once a majority vote has been established the group provide the details to the Honorary Degrees Committee Secretary, Mr Robert Lawrie, who will initiate stage two of the procedure as detailed below.

### 2. Review Mechanism

Honorary Degrees Committee (or a sub-group thereof) review the case seeking advice as necessary from other members of the University and externally. The Honorary Degree holder is written to and invited to comment on the reasons why it was proposed to withdraw the degree. A recommendation to Senatus to uphold or withdraw the Honorary Degree is prepared by the Honorary Degrees Committee.

### 3. Decision

Senatus receives the recommendation of the Honorary Degrees Committee and any comments made by the holder and then accept or disagree with the recommendation made.

### 4. Communication

If appropriate, Senatus authorises communication to the Honorary Degree holder to the effect that the degree had been withdrawn.

Approved by Senatus Academicus - minute of 07 June 2006 and 06 December 2006 Senatus

**22-Aug-2014**