



DATE: October 25, 2019
TO: The University of Maine Community
FROM: Scott G. Delcourt, Chair, Honorary Degree Committee
RE: **Call for Nominations for University of Maine Honorary Degrees**

The University of Maine Honorary Degree Committee seeks nominations for honorary degrees to be awarded at the May 2021 Commencement ceremonies.

Please find below the University of Maine System Board of Trustees Policy regarding Honorary Degrees.

A nomination form is attached. A separate nomination form should be used for each nominee and be accompanied by a nomination letter (no more than 5 pages) that includes the following information:

- a compelling rationale for the nominee
- relevant biographical data
- description of the nominee's regional, national or international prominence
- description of the nominee's connection to the state of Maine

The nomination letter should also address the following two questions:

What are the candidate's most notable accomplishments and how do these achievements make this individual worthy of receiving an honorary degree?

Are there reasons why it is particularly appropriate for this person to receive an honorary degree from the University of Maine?

The awarding of honorary degrees is an opportunity to draw positive attention to the University through the recognition of world-class achievement and impact. Please consider submitting a nomination for this special University of Maine honor.

Please send completed nominations to: the Honorary Degree Committee, Attention: Kimberly Whitehead, Chief of Staff, Office of the President, 200 Alumni Hall, *or by email at:* kimberly.whitehead@maine.edu, by **Friday, November 15, 2019**.

Board of Trustees Policy Statement *Last Revised:*
06/06/05:

Honorary degrees are subject to approval by the Board of Trustees. Honorary degrees may be conferred by any university of the University of Maine System to persons of notable achievement in an academic field, the arts and letters, the professions, or public service. All nominees will be expected to have some connection with the State of Maine, except in the case of certain internationally and nationally known persons.

Candidates for honorary degrees may be nominated by Trustees, Chancellor, Presidents, or private citizens. Approved nominations from an institution shall be awarded as a degree from that institution. There shall also be a University of Maine System degree. Nominations for the system degree may come from Trustees, Chancellor or Presidents with the Trustees designating the institution for conferring the degree.

In developing nominations it is understood that honorary degrees shall not be conferred on faculty or staff within the University of Maine System until their employment with the institution has ended or on Trustees until five years after their retirement from the Board; nor awarded to local or state government officials during their terms of office, nor awarded posthumously or in absentia. Normally, an individual shall not receive more than one honorary degree from the University of Maine System or its Universities in a five year period. And, lastly, commencement speakers shall not be automatically nominated to receive an honorary degree, nor should nominees be contacted prior to the Board's consideration.

Action on honorary degree nominations shall be taken at the January Board meeting.

NOMINATION FOR AN HONORARY DEGREE (2021)
THE UNIVERSITY OF MAINE

It is the nominator's responsibility to supply the Honorary Degree Committee with sufficient information regarding the nominee to make an informed decision.

1. Name of Nominee: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____

2. Nomination submitted by: _____
Email address: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____
Your relationship to nominee: _____

3. In what field(s) are the nominee's accomplishments? _____

4. Please select the nominee's most appropriate accomplishment category **and** the geographical scope of their prominence:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Academic Field | <input type="checkbox"/> International |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The Arts and Letters | <input type="checkbox"/> National |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The Professions | <input type="checkbox"/> Regional |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Service | |

Please send nominations to:
By mail -
The Honorary Degree Committee
Attn: Kimberly Whitehead
Chief of Staff
Office of the President
5703 Alumni Hall, Suite 200
Orono, Maine 04469

By email - kimberly.whitehead@maine.edu
Please indicate **HONORARY DEGREE NOMINATION** in subject line

Nominations must be received by: **FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2019**