

To: Drake Faculty, Staff and Trustees

From: Honorary Degree and Drake Medal Committee: Chris Kliethermes (chair)

Date: January 23, 2017

Subject: **Nominations sought for Drake Honorary Degree and Drake Medal**

The Honorary Degree and Drake Medal Committee seeks your nominations for these honors, to be awarded during the 2016-2017 academic year. **The nomination process is confidential. Please do not inform the candidate of your nomination.**

This memo provides a brief description of the awards and the nomination process and concludes with the nomination forms for each honor. Please read the guidelines and submit nominations, along with any supporting documentation, to Chris Kliethermes (c.kliethermes@drake.edu) no later than **March 1, 2017**. Thank you for helping us to identify candidates of the highest quality.

DRAKE MEDAL

Statement of Purpose

Drake University awards the Drake Medal to recognize significant service, which has been sustained over time, to the Drake University community, reflecting personal commitment to the University's quality and character.

Overview and Criteria

The first Drake Medals were awarded in 1992. The Drake Medal, a medallion of the University seal, is similar to an honorary degree in status and is bestowed at a formal academic convocation. For a list of past recipients see:

<http://www.drake.edu/president/historicalresources/drakemedalrecipients/> .

Drake Medal nominees are evaluated on the basis of the following considerations:

- Provision of significant service, which has been sustained over time, to the Drake University community, reflecting personal commitment to the University's quality and character.
- Present University faculty/administrators/staff are not eligible, but emeritus faculty/administrators or retired employees may be nominated.
- Receipt of the Drake Medal does not eliminate an individual from being considered for an honorary degree or another University award.
- A maximum of three Drake Medals may be awarded each year; Drake Medals

need not be awarded every year.

HONORARY DEGREE

Statement of Purpose

Drake University awards honorary degrees that recognize the outstanding achievements of individuals in various fields of endeavor, thereby expressing University values and inspiring excellence.

Overview and Criteria

Granting honorary degrees is an important tradition in academia. Drake University awarded its first honorary degrees in 1884. See <http://www.drake.edu/president/historicalresources/honorarydegreesawardedbydrakeuniversity/> for a list of past recipients.

Honorary degree nominees are evaluated on the basis of the following considerations:

- Outstanding and sustained achievement of a caliber that exemplifies and encourages excellence.
- Achievement may be intellectual, creative, or humanitarian in nature.
- Achievement should reflect Drake University values, including but not limited to intellectual and moral development, the pursuit of truth, and responsible global citizenship.¹
- Honorary degrees should recognize many fields of excellence; there should not be a preponderance of degrees given in any one field.
- Honorary degrees are not intended to recognize contribution or connection to Drake University, although contribution or connection to Drake does not preclude consideration for an honorary degree. In addition, past recipients of the Drake Medal or other University awards may also be considered for an honorary degree.
- Present members of the staff and the faculty and in-office and campaigning politicians are excluded from consideration.
- A maximum of two honorary degrees may be awarded each year; honorary degrees need not be awarded every year.

Examples derived from the Drake University Statement of Principles, <http://www.drake.edu/acad/policies/statementofprinciples/>, and the Drake University Mission Statement, <http://www.drake.edu/president/missionandvisionstatements/>.

NOMINATION PROCESS

This solicitation is for candidates who will receive a Drake Medal in Fall 2016 and for candidates who will receive an Honorary Degree at the Spring 2017 Commencement. Please use the format of the appropriate form below to submit your nomination(s). The name of the nominee, general information describing his or her background and accomplishments and any relevant connection to Drake University are requested. Additional information on your

nominee(s) may be submitted on separate sheets. The Committee may request further documentation from you at a later time. Nominations

from prior years may be renewed by submitting a written request to the chair of the Committee. Nominations will remain “active” for up to three years.

The Committee will review all nominations and submit a recommendation regarding approval to the Faculty Senate. The Faculty Senate votes on its recommendation, which is submitted to the Board of Trustees for final consideration.

Nominations should be sent electronically.

Send the completed form(s) no later than March 1, 2017

To:
Chris Kliethermes
Honorary Degree Committee
c.kliethermes@drake.edu