# Article 9: Degrees, Designations, and Regents Awards [1]

## PART A: DEGREES

9.A.1 Academic Degrees

(A) Academic degrees of the University of Colorado shall be those authorized by the Board of Regents and approved by the Colorado Commission on Higher Education. A complete record of the academic degrees authorized by the Board of Regents shall be maintained in the president's office.

(B) Upon the recommendation of the faculties of the colleges and schools of the university, the Board of Regents shall award students appropriate academic degrees upon the successful completion of the approved course of study.

(C) The campus registrars shall maintain the official records of the candidates to whom degrees are awarded.

9.A.2 Withholding Degrees and Transcripts

The conferring of degrees and the issuance of academic transcripts of record may be withheld for failure to meet financial obligations to the university.

## PART B: DESIGNATIONS

9.B.1 Distinguished Professor

(A) By specific action of the Board of Regents the designation of "distinguished professor" is bestowed on university faculty members who have distinguished themselves as exemplary teachers, scholars, and public servants, and who have extraordinary international importance and recognition.

(B) Further, such designations shall be awarded only on the recommendation of the appropriate campus chancellor and the president of the university following departmental nomination and justification; review by the office of the concerned dean(s); screening by a committee of senior faculty peers who will advise the chancellor about the merit of each proposal; and screening by a university-wide faculty committee who will advise the president.

9.B.2 Professor or Officer Emeritus/Emerita

(A) Any faculty member may be allowed, upon retirement and in accordance with the campus-defined process and approval by the chancellor, to retain his or her title with the description "emeritus/emerita."

(B) Any officer except those reporting directly to the president or the Board of Regents may be allowed, upon retirement and approval by the president, to retain his/her title with the description "emeritus/emerita."

(C) Any officer reporting directly to the president or the Board of Regents may be allowed, upon retirement and approval by the Board of Regents, to retain his/her title with the description "emeritus/emerita."

## PART C: REGENTS AWARDS

9.C.1 Honorary Degrees

The Board of Regents may award Honorary Degrees in recognition of outstanding intellectual contributions, university service, philanthropy, and/or public service. To receive an Honorary Degree, candidates selected must attend a university commencement within a two-year period following selection.

9.C.2 University Medals and Distinguished Service Awards

(a) The Board of Regents may award University Medals to recognize persons whose achievements and contributions are particularly associated with the university.

(b) The Board of Regents may award Distinguished Service Awards to recognize persons whose achievements and contributions are particularly associated with the state and/or nation.

(c) University Medals or Distinguished Service Awards are generally awarded at commencements but may be awarded on other occasions, as determined by the Board.

9.C.3 Candidates for Nomination

Anyone may submit nominations. Exceptions as to who can be nominated are as follows:

- No person may nominate him/herself, nor may current university employees be nominated.
- Current public officials may not be nominated. Public officials are elected or appointed officials in policy making positions with the ability to directly affect the university through an official act.
- Public officials may be nominated two years after completion of their terms of office.

History: Amended 09/11/1997, 01/22/1998, 09/09/1999, 08/03/2000, 12/19/2002; 08/21/2008; 11/06/2015

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