

Guidelines on the conferment of honorary degrees upon retired members of staff

- In common with other UK institutions it has been the practice at the University of Bradford for honorary degrees to be conferred on members of staff, but only on a very occasional and restricted basis. It is, therefore, important that those who might consider putting forward any such proposal should be fully aware of the exceptional nature of the award. For an individual to be recognised in this way must involve distinguished service which would clearly set that person apart from other members of staff. In addition, it is necessary for the recipient to have retired and to have given long service to the University.
- In the case of a member of academic staff it is normally possible to recognise achievement either through the award of a higher doctorate based on the submission of published work or through the conferment of a personal chair. It would, therefore, not normally be appropriate for such a person to receive an honorary degree. Exceptionally, a situation could arise in which it might be appropriate to mark a particular contribution to the life of the University or to the wider community where it had not been possible to recognise the work of that individual as outlined above.
- It is recognised that it may be appropriate on an occasional basis to award the honorary degree of Master to a retired member of staff. This has been the custom at a number of other institutions and can enable the University to recognise distinguished service among a greater range of staff.
- In addition to the above it should be noted that the title of Honorary Fellow may be bestowed on retired members of staff who have given long and exemplary service to the University at a level equivalent to that of Professor. Whilst current practice indicates that the conferment of an honorary degree and Emeritus/a Professorial status are not mutually exclusive it is not intended that an individual appointed as an Honorary Fellow should, in addition, receive either an Honorary Degree or be awarded the title of Emeritus/a Professor.