Murdoch University Honorary Fellowship Awards

Discussion Document – May 2005

Discussion and Approval Process

1. Draft provided to Vice Chancellor and Chancellor for consideration
2. Draft to go to Honorary Awards and Ceremonial Committee
3. Proposal to be considered by Legal and Governance for issues relating to University Constitution and provided to Legislation Committee for approval if required
4. Approved document to Senate for noting

Goals:
- To recognise significant input to the development of Murdoch University by individuals who may not be otherwise recognised by awards and titles such as Honorary Degrees or Emeritus Professor
- To maintain contact with recipients for the benefit of the community and the ongoing development of the University

Background:
The Honorary Awards and Ceremonial Committee considered the suggestion of establishing Honorary Fellowships and agreed that they should be established during 2005 with the first awards to be presented in late 2005 to correspond with the University’s 30th year anniversary.

Nomination Procedure
Individuals could be nominated by one of three groups with nominations called in March of each year
- Senate
- Senate sub-committees
- Banksia Association

Nominations would be considered and approved by the Honorary Awards and Ceremonial Committee.

Guidelines for Eligibility
Initial recipients
- First members of the University Senate
- Members of the University’s original Planning Board
Future recipients
- Individuals who have had an association with the University that is no longer current
- past staff members both academic and non-academic
- Alumni of the University that have demonstrated commitment to the development of the University and/or who had achieved considerable success in their post-university life
- Individuals who have played an important role at the University as volunteers on projects or committees such as Senate, capital fundraising campaigns etc and others that have provided significant support to the University

It is envisaged that in 2005, approximately 30 awards will be presented and that in future years 5-10 awards would be presented each year. Recipients will receive a certificate and a medal or badge and have their names entered on a new Honour Board similar to that used to recognise Honorary Degree recipients.

Suggested Program of Activities:
Recipients would also become members of the Murdoch University Banksia Association and would be encouraged to maintain contact in the following ways:
- Annual Chancellor’s Dinner with guest speaker, preferably a member of the Association
- Members to be entitled to some of the benefits currently enjoyed by Emeritus Professors, including parking, library and internet access
- Members to be invited to all major University events including graduations, lectures etc
- Members to be involved in coordinating and presenting a series of quarterly lectures for students, staff and interested public
- Members to receive Murdoch University publications including In Touch, Synergy and On Campus

Development Opportunities
Recipients, as members of the Banksia Association, would also be encouraged to become involved in the development and fundraising activities of the University including:
- encouraging members to consider making a bequest to Murdoch University in their wills;
- asking members to introduce Murdoch staff to key corporates and individuals for development programs, campaigns and projects;
- encouraging members to be involved in capital fundraising campaigns including playing a role on committees; and
- using members’ stories in fundraising resource materials and campus publications particularly if members have made a bequest to the University.

**Administration of the Awards**

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**Issues to be Resolved:**

**Presentation Event**

- Could be tied in with the annual Murdoch Lecture and presented at the beginning of the formal part of the evening. This has the advantage of ensuring a wider audience for the Murdoch Lecture and takes advantage of a formal annual event. Recipients will also benefit from being associated with the high calibre of speakers delivering the lecture each year.
- Could be a separate event coordinated by the Banksia Association in September of each year

**Name of Awards**

- Will the title of Honorary Fellowship cause confusion with academic fellowships?
- Should a different title such as Companion be used?