



AKAMAI UNIVERSITY

HONORIS CAUSA PROGRAM 2022

QUESTIONNAIRE for CANDIDATE SUPPORT

Position Statement

Akamai University has established the *Honoris Causa Program* to acknowledge the exceptional contributions of individuals worldwide toward global peace and security, advancement of the human condition, universal equality, and sustainability of the planet. While the University does not promote, in general, the awarding of honorary degrees, it has established quality criteria for the awarding the “honoris causa doctoral degree” to award earned recognition across the human community.

University Perspective

The mission of the University is established upon the premise that amelioration of world problems and the creation of sustainable lifestyles and global practices are the hallmarks of responsible individual and corporate world citizenship. As generators of new knowledge and developers of new systems, our primary mission as an institution is the advancement of the human condition and the sustainability of the planet through superior quality education and research program and proliferation of demonstration projects worldwide.

Akamai University considers the “honoris causa” program to be in unity with this mission. We are motivated and guided by very real circumstances that are best understood from valid and devastating global perspectives. Akamai University offers a full array of graduate programs for individuals seeking study and research in support of the University’s mission. The “honoris causa” program is extended across these fields of study: education and literacy, ecological and environmental studies, global health, universal equality, integrative health, energy medicine, energy therapies, transpersonal studies, complementary and alternative medicine, integrative psychology, health and wellness, peace studies, sustainable human development, humanities, diplomacy and international studies, religious studies, applied psychology and human services, business and economic development, and information technology and media studies.

The University does not charge tuition for candidates related to the Honoris Causa Program. However, it is deemed customary to accept reasonable financial and material contributions from individuals awarded honorary degrees by Akamai University so long as it is clearly understood and acknowledged that such funds and materials are contributed solely toward support of the University’s mission. The minimum customary donation made by Honoris Causa awardees has been US \$2000, although the University has received donations exceeding US \$12,000.

“Honoris Causa” Approval Process

First Stage: Recommendation by Akamai Faculty and Affiliate Administration

The first communication related to an “honoris causa” award must be received by the University administration from a member of the Akamai University faculty or administration of an approved organizational affiliate of the University. This letter of recommendation includes a brief statement of recommendation, summarizing the greatest strengths and contributions of the candidate toward the betterment of the human condition and the sustainability of the planet. The letter should be signed, dated, and submitted in a formal letterhead format. Upon receiving the letter of recommendation, the University President shall determine the fitness of the candidate for full review and issue a letter of acceptance regarding the candidacy, providing guidelines concerning submission of the supporting materials.

Second Stage: Submission of Candidate Supporting Materials

Upon receipt of the approval of candidacy from the University President, the recommending faculty member or affiliate administrator should gather and prepare the supporting information, as listed below. The submission of candidate’s supporting materials should be presented in a formal manner including clean copies of supporting documentation. The submission on behalf of the candidate may be provided by post, fax, or scanned email attachment to:

Dr. Mary Jo Bulbrook, President, Akamai University, 3211 Gibson Road, Durham, NC 27703, USA, mj.bulbrook@akamai.university, 1.919.724.9657 / fax 1.919.381.4198. ,

1. Provide the full name of recommending faculty member or affiliate administrator
2. List full legal name of the candidate with postal address, telephone, fax and email address, and website address, if available. Also provide the date and place of birth of the candidate.
3. Provide photographs of the candidate, including formal and “active” pictures
4. List university and college degrees and other educational credentials earned by the candidate
5. List licenses, certifications and professional credentials achieved by the candidate
6. List candidate’s present place of employment, profession, or position of acclaim
7. Itemize the career and professional achievements of the candidate that have served the betterment of the human community
8. List the personal, fraternal, and voluntary community contributions made by the candidate toward the betterment of the human condition and the sustainability of the planet
9. List additional commendations and awards attributable to the candidate
10. Include three letters of reference from prominent individuals who attest to the ethical character, and the depth of contribution made by the candidate toward the betterment of the human condition and sustainability of the planet.

Approval by Senior Faculty

Upon receipt of the full submission in support of the candidate, the President shall acknowledge receipt and enter dialogue with the appropriate Center Director and the University Vice President. The review of the candidate for the award is conducted to determine the appropriateness and strength of the candidate for the award. Upon approval of the candidate, letters of acceptance are dispatched to the candidate with copies to all relevant members of the University community. At this time an activity for formal presentation of the award may be scheduled.

Major World Problems Address by This Program

Roughly 1.3 billion people live in absolute poverty with nearly 25 million being added to their numbers each year. Hundreds of millions of people have no running water to drink or bathe themselves. One hundred million people do not have homes to live in and must spend their lives on the streets and pavements, their children never knowing the security of a suitable shelter. (World Bank and the United Nations)

The children of many nations suffer appalling abuses at the hands of their own countrymen and represent a huge and voiceless population seldom represented in the international human rights arena. Street children are frequently abused by police or imprisoned in inhumane conditions. Because of their vulnerable condition, young people are often used as soldiers, and bonded laborers. Governments are known to perpetrate or acquiesce in systematic human rights violations against women, citing customs and rigid concepts of privacy as justifications for the subordination of women. (Human Rights Watch)

Human culture now has the potential to inflict irreversible damage on the environment and on its life sustaining systems and resources. Already, critical stress suffered by our environment is clearly manifest in the air, water, and soil, our climate, and plant and animal species. Should this deterioration be allowed to continue, we can expect to alter the living world to the extent that it will be unable to sustain life, as we know it. (Union of Concerned Scientists)

Already, more than ten percent of the earth's vegetated surface has been degraded, an area larger than India and China combined. This desertification, caused by overgrazing domestic animals, over-cultivation, salinization, and deforestation, has already begun to impact over 35 percent of Earth's land surface and the situation is worsening (United Nations Environmental Program).

More than half the World population lacks access to the badly needed essential drugs. More than 150 million children are born every year worldwide and approximately 10% of these will never see their fifth birthday. One child dies every other second, due to malnutrition, hunger, and poverty. It is estimated that one quarter of the World population is subject to chronic intestinal parasitic infections, which have insidious effects on growth, malnutrition, and cognitive functions. (World Health Organization, World Health Report)

It is no small aspiration to strive for a world filled with greater peace, balance, cooperation, and the promise of an evolved human fellowship. These are noble foundation stones upon which to establish the fundamentals of sustainable human culture. They are spiritual principles that demand a worthy mission, and although the tasks and goals before us seem immense, they are attainable with adequate understanding of the problems and solutions, and the full commitment and participation of the global community. The "Honoris Causa Program for Human Advancement" is intended to serve the University's mission toward the amelioration of major world problems.

The award of the "honoris causa" degree is made by recommendation from senior faculty of Akamai, based upon the strength of the candidate's submission and as it is determined that the candidate has contributed in a substantial manner toward advancement of the human condition.