

Higher Degrees by Research Posthumous Awards Policy

Section 1 - Introduction

(1) This policy supports the University's commitment to offering posthumous awards where such awards are deemed appropriate. It should be read in conjunction with the [Awards and Graduation Policy](#) and the [Higher Degree by Research Policy](#).

Section 2 - Policy Intent

(2) This policy provides the framework for the posthumous granting of an award in the event of the death of an enrolled higher degree by research candidate of the University of Newcastle.

Section 3 - Policy Principles

(3) A higher degree by research award may be granted posthumously to a deceased candidate subject to the following conditions:

- a. the candidate was active (currently enrolled or on approved Leave of Absence) in the program at the time of their death;
- b. there is a reasonable expectation that the candidate would have satisfactorily completed the requirements for the award had they not passed away;
- c. consideration of the granting of a posthumous award is proposed and supported by the Pro Vice-Chancellor (or nominee) of the College responsible for the program; and
- d. the work of the candidate is subsequently deemed by the appointed examiners to meet the required criteria.

(4) Intellectual property rights, where these apply, will be resolved in line with the University's [Intellectual Property Policy](#).

Status and Details

Status	Historic
Effective Date	3rd December 2008
Review Date	31st December 2019
Approval Authority	Academic Senate
Approval Date	3rd December 2008
Expiry Date	9th October 2023
Responsible Executive	Juanita Todd Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research and Innovation)
Enquiries Contact	Graduate Research

Glossary Terms and Definitions

"Posthumous award" - An award granted after the death of the recipient.

"University" - The University of Newcastle, a body corporate established under sections 4 and 5 of the University of Newcastle Act 1989.

"Award" - When referring to a University qualification, this term means an academic qualification approved by Academic Senate that is conferred when a student has met the relevant program requirements. For all other uses of this term, the generic definition applies.

"Candidate" - With regard to Higher Degree by Research it has the same meaning as student. For all other instances it is a person considered for appointment to a position.

"Intellectual property" - Intellectual property (IP), as defined by the World Intellectual Property Organisation, refers to creations of the mind: inventions; literary and artistic works; and symbols, names and images used in commerce. Intellectual property is divided into two categories: Industrial property includes patents for inventions, trademarks, industrial designs and geographical indications; and Copyright covers literary works (such as novels, poems and plays), films, music, artistic works (e.g. drawings, paintings, photographs and sculptures) and architectural design. Rights related to copyright include those of performing artists in their performances, producers of phonograms in their recordings, and broadcasters in their radio and television programs.

"Program" - When referring to learning, a program is a sequence of approved learning, usually leading to an Award. For all other uses of this term, the generic definition applies.

"College" - An organisational unit established within the University by the Council.