Motion to recommend the nomination of King Harald V of Norway for an honorary doctorate degree. Martin Wurm (Economics), Educational Policies Committee. ACTION ITEM.

Resolved, that the faculty recommend to President Krise the nomination of King Harald V of Norway for a Doctor of Laws *jure dignitatis* as detailed in Attachment C.

**Nomination of King Harald V of Norway for a Doctorate of Laws *jure dignitatis***

The Faculty Handbook cites two objectives for the awarding of an honorary doctorate. “The first is to recognize worthy individuals whose lives and work advance the mission of the university. The second is to promote the reputation of the university as an institution which recognizes and encourages such excellence.” The criteria for the award of an honorary degree are further specified as follows: “Nominees must not merely have accomplished a job competently but must have excelled through unusual success in or contribution to their field, through innovation or research which has caused their profession to advance, through extraordinary achievement which has enabled people to live more humanely, or through exemplary efforts to advance the mission of the university.”

In recognition of King Harald’s long record of distinguished service to his country and the world, the Educational Policies Committee – after consultation with the Board of Regents Academic Affairs Committee – recommends the title of “Doctor of Laws” *jure dignitatis* (“for the sake of the honor”) to be awarded to the King. This degree is often given to long-serving or high-ranking judges, clerics, or public officials. It is the committee’s view that the degree provides the best fit for the monarchical head of state of Norway, who in his efforts has also served to advance the mission of the University.

The full nomination case statement is available at the Provost’s website under: http://www.plu.edu/provost/documents/

**Support of the Norwegian Lutheran Heritage:**

King Harald

- represents PLU’s historic origins and foundational culture as the first prince born on Norwegian soil in 567 years and through his record of distinguished service to his country
- promotes the Lutheran tradition of higher education at home and abroad and visits private Lutheran colleges of Norwegian heritage in the United States
- represents Norway’s Lutheran heritage by serving as Norway's chief diplomat and by having served as the nominal and constitutional head of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Norway.
Service to PLU’s Mission

King Harald

- demonstrates a long standing commitment to education and to the elements of PLU’s mission and strategic initiatives in speeches and public appearances
- supports the notion of social peace and collaboration in a global community, through his own biography having grown up in Norway and the U.S. and his extensive travels
- demonstrates care for a just and sustainable world through service for instance as President of the Norwegian chapter of the World Wildlife Fund
- helped to preserve the historical Norwegian Lutheran traditions of PLU’s heritage and to support the university as it prepares students to face the global challenges of the future for instance through support for PLU to bring speakers to events organized by the Wang Center.

Background Information

Date of Birth/Birthplace

February 21, 1937/Skaugum, Norway

Education

University of Oslo
Cavalry Officers’ Candidate School at Trandum
Norwegian Military Academy
Balliol College, Oxford

Career

Successor to the throne of Norway upon the death of King Olaf V, January 17, 1991

Honorary Degrees and Titles

Honorary degree Doctor of Civil Law from Oxford University, 2006
Honorary Doctor of Law, Waseda University in Japan, 2001
Honorary Doctor of Law, University of Strathclyde, Scotland, 1985
Honorary fellow at Balliol College, Oxford
Honorary President of the Offshore Racing Congress
Co-President of Honour of the International Sailing Federation with King Constantine II of Greece

Family

Married to Sonja, Queen of Norway (recipient of an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from PLU in 1995)
Two children – Crown Prince Haakon and Princess Martha Louise