

The Doctor of Science Degree: First and Second in the World from EDCL

This degree is awarded to a candidate with a proven record of international scholarship. It is very rarely awarded to anyone under 40 and was originally intended by the University of London as a greater distinction than a professorial chair, so the recipient's title is "Doctor" and not "Professor". On the Civil List my title is "Professor". Under modern rules there has to be an interval between Ph. D. and D. Sc. For the University of Wales in 1977 it was two years. So the distinguished paleobotanist Marie Stopes for example had an advantage of two years, and the distinguished mathematician Alexander Aitken of New Zealand was allowed to submit his D. Sc. before his Ph. D. when he was 31. Under old rules it could be awarded before a Ph. D. Under modern rules the youngest recipients I can find are:

- 1) Myron Wyn Evans, EDCL Aberystwyth, aged 26 (on 23rd April 1977) when submitted to the faculty board of the University of Wales.
- 2) John Owen (J. O.) Williams, EDCL Aberystwyth, aged 36 when he received it in 1978 at the same degree ceremony as myself.
- 3) Kevin Warwick, 40.

Under old rules:

- 1) Marie Carmichael Stopes aged 25, about the same time as her Ph. D.
- 2) Alexander Aitken, aged 31, before his Ph. D.