

## **Graduate Student of Highest Distinction Award (summa cum laude)**

### **Graduate Studies Committee Motions:**

The “**Graduate Student of Highest Distinction Award**” will be given at the Spring Convocation.

### **Eligibility criteria for this award:**

- student achieves superior academic distinction with a GPA (cumulative) of 4.26 or higher for all the course work of their graduate degree; AND meet at least one of the following criteria:
  1. they complete with distinction, in-depth and comprehensive project(s) within their academic area of interest (e.g. thesis, research paper, documentary film, exhibition)
  2. they complete work with distinction under the supervision of their graduate advisor and/or graduate committee
  3. they surmount major obstacles in pursuit of their educational goals.

Overall, students of greatest distinction (summa cum laude, with highest praise) will have demonstrated their exceptional capabilities throughout their studies.

### **General Regulations:**

- Outstanding students from each program may be nominated.
- Student must have completed their degree requirements during the Spring-Summer of the previous year or Fall/Winter terms of the current year.
- A detailed nomination letter outlining the students’ achievements should come from the graduate program coordinator to the Graduate Studies Committee including their Faculty Dean's signature (department chair signature optional) plus a transcript/mark statement.
- The student must have completed all degree requirements by the Spring Convocation, when the award is given, however students who graduated in the October Convocation of the previous year are also eligible.

\*This award will be given by the Dean of Graduate Studies and the Faculty Dean at the Spring convocation. The award may be given to a maximum of one student per graduate program per year.