At its meeting of November 7, 2000, the Academic Senate approved the following revised policy on the Graduate Student Award For Distinguished Achievement:

The San Francisco State University Graduate Student Award for Distinguished Achievement is conferred on students who have earned a distinguished record of academic performance and contribution in the major field. Nomination for the award is based on criteria that are specified by the faculty in the respective graduate major subject areas. Academic achievement, contribution to the profession or discipline, to the department, college or university, or to the community are examples of student achievement that may be taken into consideration.

For the Distinguished Achievement Award, each college may select, from its nominees, up to seven percent (7%), rounded up to the nearest whole number, of the mean of the number of students who received graduate degrees from that college during the previous five years.

To be selected, the students shall have already distinguished themselves as specified in the established criteria. These criteria must include, but are not limited to, a) the candidate has a minimum grade point average of 3.5, b) the candidate has filed Graduate Approved Program with the Graduate Division, and c) the candidate has already graduated in the immediate past summer or fall semester, or has an advisor’s statement indicating that the candidate is expected to graduate in spring or summer that year. No student may receive this award more than once for a specific degree.

Faculty from the various graduate programs in a college will forward nominations of candidates for the award to a college-wide faculty committee consisting of one representative from each of the college's department/school or equivalent unit that offers a graduate program. The college committee will select the award recipients. In addition, the committee will select one student to be the College's nominee for the Master’s Hood Recipient. From these names, a committee of the University Graduate Council will select the Master's Hood Recipient.

The Dean of the Graduate Division's responsibilities for administering the award procedure include:

1. Informing the College Deans by the beginning of the Spring Semester as to the number of awards which are authorized for that academic year and to provide instructions for submitting nominations.

2. Receiving nominations and supporting documents from the College Deans and verifying basic eligibility (i.e., Graduate Approved Program on file, minimum 3.5 grade point average, has graduated or has advisor's statement).

3. Conducting the awards ceremony.

4. Issuing certificates of award.

5. Notifying Registrar for posting on transcripts.
The policy shall be reviewed by the Academic Policies Committee three years after its implementation.

**APPROVED BY PRESIDENT CORRIGAN ON DECEMBER 6, 2000**