



News Release

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Board of Regents' Statement on the Passing of Colette Abbott

PIERRE, S.D. – The South Dakota Board of Regents issued the following statements today on the passing of Colette Abbott, spouse of University of South Dakota President James Abbott and the First Lady of USD.

From Board President Randy Schaefer of Madison:

“The South Dakota Board of Regents is deeply saddened by the sudden passing of Colette Abbott. Colette was a wonderful ambassador for USD. Her care and concern for others were evident in all that she did, as well as in the work she undertook for so many causes important to her. Our thoughts and prayers are with Jim Abbott, her children, and her extended family, as well as all of her campus family, the USD faculty, staff, and administrators.

From Mike Rush, executive director and CEO of the South Dakota Board of Regents, Pierre:

“Colette Abbott has been a tremendous supporter of the University of South Dakota and an asset to the entire system of higher education. We are deeply grieved by her passing.”