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NSU Student Organizations Honored

ABERDEEN, S.D. – The South Dakota Board of Regents has recognized three student organizations from Northern State University for their outstanding academic, community, and organizational work.

NSU student groups receiving the special awards were:

- **Award for Academic Excellence** – The **NSU Honors Program** brings students together from various academic fields, with a common goal of academic excellence. To graduate with honors at NSU, a student must take at least 18 credit hours in honors courses and complete a thesis. Several NSU students from the Honors Program have presented their undergraduate research at the National Collegiate Honors Conference. The group also sponsors the campus-wide Common Read program and hosts other special events.



Presenting the award are (from left) Executive Director Michael Rush, President Randy Schaefer, and NSU President James Smith. Receiving the award for the Honors Program (from left) are Corey Klatt, junior history major from Watertown, and Ian Coughlin, junior history major from Pierre. Credit: Greg Smith, NSU University Relations

- **Community Service Award** – The **NSU Art Club** is active in many Aberdeen area non-profit organizations and partners with groups such as Empty Bowls, Aberdeen Humane Society, and Fall Out Creative. The club has also worked with students and staff at the May Overby Elementary School in Aberdeen to improve its community outreach, while becoming

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more directly involved in supporting the arts through education and exploration.



Presenting the award are (from left) Executive Director Michael Rush and President Randy Schaefer. Receiving the award for the Northern State Art Club (from left) are Nicole Arnold, senior art education major from Malta, Mont., and Dr. Greg Blair, associate professor of art and Northern galleries director. Credit: Greg Smith, NSU University Relations

- **Award for Organizational Leadership** – The **Campus Activities Board** involves students in co-curricular experiences to promote learning, personal growth and development, leadership, social responsibility, an appreciation for diversity, and a sense of belonging to the campus community. One of the board's projects was the One Day Blood Drive Project, which asked donors to remember those who lost their lives on Sept. 11, 2001, by donating blood. NSU was the only university in the Dakotas to participate in this national event.



Presenting the award are (from left) Executive Director Michael Rush and President Randy Schaefer. Receiving the award for the Campus Activities Board (from left) are Donovan Soulek, junior elementary education major from Wagner, Taylor Ellingson, sophomore communications and business major from Warner/Stratford, and Sarah Botkin, NSU director of student involvement and leadership. Credit: Greg Smith, NSU University Relations