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### **Gov. Rounds Announces Creation of Fifth 2010 Research Center**

PIERRE, S.D. - A fifth university-based research center will be created with \$500,000 in first-year funding from the state, Gov. Mike Rounds announced today.

The Center for Bioprocessing Research and Development at South Dakota School of Mines and Technology, in conjunction with South Dakota State University, will join four other highly-specialized research centers already in operation. Earlier this year, the legislature agreed to Gov. Rounds' request to create an additional center, expanding on a successful effort begun in 2004 to target state investments in specialized research at South Dakota public universities.

"Already in the short life of these research centers, they have made a significant impact in helping South Dakota become a recognized leader in research and technology development," Gov. Rounds said. "I am confident this new operation will have similar success." The research centers are an integral part of the governor's 2010 economic development initiative.

Gov. Rounds noted that after only 24 months in operation, the four original research centers now report a \$40 million economic impact from a state investment of \$5.4 million.

The new bioprocessing research center will be located within the Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering at SDSMT. The center will focus on research that leads to new technologies for processing plant-derived materials in an effort to reduce the nation's dependence on petroleum and lower the production of greenhouse gases.

The center's principal investigator is Dr. Robb Winter, who will be joined by 10 other leading scientists as collaborators from the fields of microbiology, chemical engineering, chemistry, biochemical engineering, agricultural engineering, and mechanical engineering. Funding for the center was recommended by the 2010 Research and Commercialization Council after reviewing four proposals submitted by faculty at South Dakota public universities.