



# News Release

Contacts: Robert T. Tad Perry, Executive Director  
tadp@sdbor.edu

Janelle Toman, Director of Information & Institutional Research  
janellet@sdbor.edu

T: 605.773.3455

F: 605.773.5320

www.sdbor.edu

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## Regents Recognize Student Groups

RAPID CITY, S.D. – The South Dakota Board of Regents recognized outstanding student groups from Black Hills State University and South Dakota School of Mines and Technology at its meeting this week.

Student organization award winners from BHSU were:

- **Award for Academic Excellence** – The **Health Science Student Organization** encourages students to balance academic, social, and professional involvement while on campus. Incoming freshmen are paired with an upperclassman in the same professional field to assist those new students through their primary years at BHSU. This gives upper-level students an opportunity to mentor their younger peers in academic and extracurricular activities within the health care professions. Because this group interacts directly with outside experts, BHSU has become very successful in placing their health care students in graduate school programs.
- **Community Service Award** – The **Honors Program Student Organization** plans activities to involve its members more directly in the campus and community. Honors students must commit to volunteer and service activities in order to be admitted to the program. Students this year were involved in such activities as Adopt-A-Highway, blood drive, Junior Jackets Spelling Bee, and a stress management seminar.
- **Award for Organizational Leadership** – The **Collegiate Outdoor Leadership Program** focuses on group team building by sponsoring leadership development opportunities for members, the campus community, and outdoor enthusiasts. The program sponsored a “Hike to the H” on Lookout Mountain during the campus homecoming celebration. As a fundraiser, the group sponsors a backpack raffle and provides equipment rentals to students in the cross-country skiing class. The students also are seeking a \$2,500 grant to obtain youth rock climbing gear to conduct clinics for middle school and summer recreation programs.

Groups from SDSM&T receiving student organization awards were:

- **Award for Academic Excellence** – The **Xi Tau Chapter of the Order of Omega Greek Honor Society** is the only Greek honor society at School of Mines, and open only to the top 15 percent of the Greek population on campus. The Order of Omega sponsors selection of the outstanding Greek chosen each spring for the SDSM&T Honors Convocation. The group recently researched past award winners and purchased a plaque to be placed in the student union which will permanently document winners of the outstanding Greek award.
- **Community Service Award** – The **Material Advantage Student Chapter** encourages students to develop their professionalism through service to others and giving back to the community. It has become a tradition for the chapter to organize and sponsor an event every spring for children from Wellspring Children’s Home. Chapter members arrange for the children to spend a Saturday at a local amusement park. In the fall, the chapter sponsors a reading and writing event at the public library, where they help children to write their own book.
- **Award for Organizational Leadership** – The **Alpha Omega Epsilon Professional Engineering and Science Sorority** has emphasized leadership, professionalism, friendship, and sisterhood among its members at School of Mines for more than 20 years. The group earned international recognition from the executive board of Alpha Omega Epsilon in both 2004 and 2005. The sorority sponsors professional, community service, and social events on campus, including a barbeque, open house, and social dinner for its alumni who returned for the SDSM&T Alumni Reunion.

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**BHSU Health Science Student Organization**



**BHSU Honors Program**

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**BHSU Collegiate Outdoor Leadership Program**



**SDSMT Xi Tau Chapter of the Order of Omega Greek Honor Society**



**SDSMT Material Advantage Student Chapter**



**SDSMT Alpha Omega Epsilon Professional Engineering and Science Sorority**