



News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Friday, May 30, 2008

New Degree Programs Planned for Off-Campus Sites

ABERDEEN, S.D. – The South Dakota Board of Regents has approved two new degree programs to be offered at off-campus locations, as well as started the process of planning for two more. All four of the programs would be offered in Sioux Falls, and some would also be offered at additional sites or by distance.

“Our public universities are very attuned to their responsibility to develop programs that enhance economic and community development across South Dakota,” said Regents President Harvey C. Jewett. “With off-campus centers now located in Sioux Falls, Pierre, and Rapid City, coupled with distance delivery, we can more effectively meet the many demands within our workforce for higher education.”

The regents, meeting this week in Aberdeen, approved the following:

- A new **bachelor of science degree in entrepreneurial studies from South Dakota State University**. The program is designed to meet the needs of the Sioux Falls market at University Center, as well as on campus in Brookings. The degree prepares students to start up new for-profit or not-for-profit enterprises, work independently in a creative endeavor, or manage an organization. The program will be available this fall, and is expected to serve up to 57 students within three years.
- A new **associate of science degree in industrial technology from Black Hills State University**. The degree will be offered in Sioux Falls, Rapid City, and Yankton. Students will gain entry-level skills for industrial technology positions in such industries as communications, construction, manufacturing, power and energy, and transportation. Courses will be offered at the three sites starting this summer, and the coursework is designed so students may easily transition into completing a four-year degree in industrial technology if they choose.
- A request to begin planning for a **master of science degree in science and technology from South Dakota School of Mines & Technology**. The program would be offered in Sioux Falls as an outreach from the School of Mines’ campus, directed primarily to non-traditional students who are already employed but wish to develop advanced expertise. The program would offer the opportunity to gain proficiency in two certificate areas of

the student's choice, along with a "professional skills" elective and an in-depth research project customized to meet personal or professional needs. SDSM&T will return to the regents for final approval of the program after further plans are developed.

- A request to begin planning for an **associate of science degree in banking and financial services from Northern State University**. NSU officials want to offer the two-year degree at University Center in Sioux Falls, Capital University Center in Pierre, and the Higher Education Center-West River in Rapid City. Plans also call for this degree to be offered by videoconferencing and online. This degree would serve as a gateway to entry-level jobs in banking, insurance, and at other financial institutions across South Dakota. The university will prepare specific plans and return to the board for final approval.

Regents' officials said it was important to note that no new state resources, additional student fees, or additional facilities have been requested to implement any of these programs.