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Governor Picks Bob Sutton For Board of Regents

PIERRE, S.D. – Gov. Dennis Daugaard announced today that he will appoint Bob Sutton of Pierre to the South Dakota Board of Regents.

“Bob has a keen intellect and an incredible amount of experience in the private and nonprofit sectors, having served at the upper levels of several statewide organizations over the past two decades,” the Governor said. “He also shares my deep conviction that higher education helps drive economic development and social progress in South Dakota, and I’m pleased that he has agreed to serve on the Board of Regents.”

Sutton has a bachelor's degree in political science and a master's in public administration, both from the University of South Dakota. He currently is vice president for community relations with Avera Health. Sutton served from 2003-2012 as president of the South Dakota Community Foundation. Previously, Sutton was executive director of the South Dakota Association of County Officials and executive vice president of the South Dakota Bankers Association.

Sutton's appointment is effective April 5. He will succeed Dr. James O. Hansen of Pierre, who is retiring from the Board after 18 years as one of the longest-serving regents in the state's history.

"I want to thank Regent Hansen for his years of service," the Governor said. "Jim has been a tireless advocate for students, with a strong focus on maintaining high quality while controlling costs."