

Contacts: Jack R. Warner, Executive Director and CEO  
[jack.warner@sdbor.edu](mailto:jack.warner@sdbor.edu)

Janelle Toman, Director of Communications  
[Janelle.toman@sdbor.edu](mailto:Janelle.toman@sdbor.edu)

Telephone: (605) 773-3455

Fax: (605) 773-5320

[www.sdbor.edu](http://www.sdbor.edu)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** Wednesday, April 1, 2015

## Student Organizations Earn Regents' Recognition

VERMILLION, S.D. – The South Dakota Board of Regents this week honored student organizations from the University of South Dakota and South Dakota State University for their outstanding academic, community, and organizational work.

USD student groups given special awards were:

- **Award for Academic Excellence – Kappa Alpha Theta** commits its organization and membership to academic excellence. This group has held the top sorority grade point average on the USD campus for 41 of the past 45 semesters. It recently broke its own record with a cumulative GPA of 3.545, including 41 members with a perfect 4.0 GPA. Chapter members have diverse academic interests, with more than 25 majors represented and involvement in 31 pre-professional organizations on campus.



*Jack Warner, Executive Director Board of Regents; Brianna Davis, President Kappa Alpha Theta; Dean Krogman, President Board of Regents; Carly Heard, advisor; James Abbott, USD President*

- **Community Service Award – Alternative Week of Off-Campus Learning (AWOL)** encourages active citizenship through educational service-learning experiences held off campus. Students are exposed to diverse social issues and then are encouraged to apply

## Student Awards – 2

their experiences after they return from an off-campus trip. Core values of diversity, education, and application are stressed.



*Jack Warner, Executive Director Board of Regents; Ashely McKeown, AWOL; Dean Krogman, President Board of Regents; Chris Stockdale, advisor; James Abbott, USD President*

- **Award for Organizational Leadership – Lambda Chi Alpha** stresses extracurricular involvement both on campus and within the Vermillion community. Recent projects include USD Student Government, sorority and fraternity life ambassadorships, sports activities, and Campus Activities Board. The chapter hosts weekly speakers who present to students on topics ranging from professional development to career networking.



*Jack Warner, Executive Director Board of Regents; Nicholas Bratvold, President Lambda Chi Alpha; Dean Krogman, President Board of Regents; Tyler Tordsen, Lambda Chi Alpha; James Abbott, USD President*

SDSU student groups awarded special recognition were:

- **Award for Academic Excellence** – The **Honors College Student Organization** was created in 2000 for students enrolled in the SDSU Honors College. It provides a welcoming environment to build community and offer students new opportunities for service, personal development, and growth. Activities include information about study-abroad opportunities, presentations from international students, and how to write research and grant proposals.



*David Chicoine, SDSU President; Jeremiah Atkinson, Jacob Ailts, Terra Klima, Nick Lorang, and Ally Helms, Honors College; Dean Krogman, President Board of Regents; Jack Warner, Executive Director Board of Regents.*

- **Community Service Award** – **Alpha Xi Delta** has served SDSU students since 1968, stressing sisterhood, leadership, knowledge, and service to the community. At the national level, Alpha Xi Delta supports the “Autism Speaks” cause. The SDSU chapter has found several ways to support that effort through a community Easter egg hunt, selling programs at home football games, and sponsoring the popular “Crush for a Crush” program on Valentine’s Day.



*Front Row: Molly Peterson, Kristine Beck, Brianna Mettler, Christina Brennan; Alpha Xi Delta. Back Row: David Chicoine, SDSU President; Dean Krogman, President Board of Regents; Jack Warner, Executive Director Board of Regents.*

## Student Awards – 2

- **Award for Organizational Leadership** – The SDSU chapter of **American Pharmacists Association Academy of Student Pharmacists** has been actively involved on campus since 1997. This group gives students the opportunity to advance the pharmacy profession, while learning new leadership and patient care skills. A recent initiative found students raising funds to provide protective medical equipment in Sierra Leone to help healthcare workers treat Ebola patients, while also spreading awareness about the disease.



*David Chicoine, SDSU President; Dr. Teresa Seefeldt, APhA-ASP Chapter Advisor; Ms. Leah Eckstein, APhA-ASP Chapter President; Dean Krogman, President Board of Regents; Dr. Brittney Meyer, APhA-ASP Chapter Advisor; Jack Warner, Executive Director Board of Regents*