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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Thursday, June 30, 2011

Psychology Degree to be Offered in Rapid City; New Robotics Minor and Certificate Programs Also Approved

MADISON, S.D. – In a series of academic program actions, the South Dakota Board of Regents has approved the expanded offering of a popular undergraduate degree in psychology, a new minor in robotics, and seven new certificate programs.

Black Hills State University received permission to bring its bachelor's degree in psychology to the new off-campus University Center in Rapid City. "Delivery of the program in Rapid City will best serve non-traditional students who cannot easily commute to Spearfish to complete this degree," said Jack Warner, the regents' executive director and CEO. The B.S. degree in psychology prepares students for a variety of in-demand careers or graduate study, including school psychology, clinical psychology, social services, medicine, and law.

The board also approved a new minor in robotics at **South Dakota School of Mines and Technology**, to be offered starting this fall. "The robotics minor is a vital way to help prepare our students to work with this cutting-edge technology within the context of their own major," said Mines President Robert Wharton. School of Mines currently offers a master's degree in robotics and intelligent autonomous systems, so all coursework needed for the new undergraduate minor is already part of the university's scheduled offerings, and no additional resources are being requested.

Certificate programs, usually requiring 12 credit hours to complete, package a small set of courses that allow students to develop expertise in a focused area of study addressing identified market and workforce development needs. New certificate programs were approved this week for the following:

- **Dakota State University** – English for New Media; Professional and Technical Communications
- **South Dakota State University** – Financial and Housing Counseling; Grassland Management; Transdisciplinary Childhood Obesity Prevention
- **University of South Dakota** – Music Certificate in Piano, Undergraduate; Music Certificate in Piano, Graduate