



News Release

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Four Public Universities Earn New Research Grants

PIERRE, S.D. – The South Dakota Board of Regents announces the awarding of research and development innovation grants to four public universities across the state.

“The R&D Innovation Grant program is designed to stimulate economic development by focusing on research and development areas with the highest potential for economic development in our state,” said Mike Rush, the regents’ executive director and CEO. “Strengthening South Dakota’s research infrastructure is a critical component to growing our knowledge-based economy and advancing industry sectors identified in the 2020 Vision, The South Dakota Science and Innovation Strategy.”

Dakota State University, South Dakota School of Mines & Technology, South Dakota State University, and the University of South Dakota received a total of \$712,000. The grant awards were distributed as follows:

- \$191,600 to Dakota State University to establish an unclassified research lab, which will serve to develop and strengthen DSU’s relationship with the National Security Agency (NSA). This project allows DSU students to work side by side with some of the most advanced technical researchers at NSA on projects impacting national security.
- \$200,000 to South Dakota School of Mines & Technology to make strategic investments in three projects to strengthen the university’s research and development infrastructure. One of the projects will build up and expand on SDSM&T’s current success to commercialize a biomass liquefaction process, with the other two projects focused on underground science, both of which stand to support and advance activities underway at the Sanford Underground Research Facility.
- \$200,000 to South Dakota State University to support the Sanford Health and SDSU collaboration, which hinges on Sanford’s Profile program designed for weight loss, improved wellness, and fitness. The award will help fund five projects at SDSU to promote human health and nutrition, study the human microbiome, and develop sensors that monitor wellness factors.

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- \$120,400 to the University of South Dakota to enhance its germanium detector development laboratory. These detectors play a critical role in experiments focused on the Cosmic Intensity Frontiers, which include the properties of dark matter and neutrinos.

Go to <http://sdeprior.org/2020vision/> for more information about 2020 Vision: The South Dakota Science and Innovation Strategy.