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Student Groups at SD Mines Recognized for Excellence

RAPID CITY, S.D. – The South Dakota Board of Regents recognized student organizations from South Dakota School of Mines & Technology for excellence in academic, community, and organizational work.

SDSM&T student groups receiving the special regents' awards were:

- **Award for Academic Excellence** –The **Graduate Student Society** enhances the student experience and assists SD Mines' graduate students in their career development by emphasizing advocacy, networking, career preparation seminars, workshops, and webinars. Specialized seminars and workshops are often presented by experts in their field. Some of the recent campus presentations focused on work-life balance, academic writing, and involvement in professional associations.



BOR Executive Director Paul Beran, Jacob Oberpriller, Brooke Long, BOR President Kevin Schieffer, Madigan Cochran-Bjerke, Chinmaya Kodjee, Advisor Dr. Maribeth Price and SDSM&T President Jim Rankin.

- **Community Service Award** – **Lambda Chi Alpha Fraternity** is the newest fraternity on campus. Even with a smaller membership, the group volunteered 1,100 service hours over the course of an academic year. Projects supporting the campus and the Rapid City community included a “Night in the Cold Event” to benefit homeless organizations, a partnership with Circle

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K International Club to collect food for Feeding South Dakota, student blood drives, and weekly volunteering at the Humane Society.



Back Row: BOR Executive Director Paul Beran, Neil Leyda, Evan Tellinghuisen, Kenji Johnson, Joseph Updike, Peter Daly, Jared Cogswell, Jon Mack, Aaron Campbell, and SDSM&T President Jim Rankin
Front Row: Advisor - Coach Ryan Larsen, John Waters, Joseph Hilsendeger, Jacob Oberpriller, BOR President Kevin Schieffer, and Josh Fogel

- **Award for Organizational Leadership** – The **Society of Physics Students** is open to any student on campus, regardless of major, as long as they enjoy physics. This organization has proved that physics can be fun, with more than 60 members and growing. The group gets involved in career fairs, Mines Day at the state Capitol, presentations at the Sanford Underground Research Facility’s visitor center in Lead, and regular physics demonstrations and lab tours on campus.



Jacob Oberpriller, BOR Executive Director Paul Beran, Advisor Michael Dowding, Michael Thompson, Gabe Wiczorek, BOR President Kevin Schieffer, Layne Tiezen, SDSM&T President Jim Rankin, and Isaac Fredrick.