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Regents Honor Student Groups at SD Mines and Black Hills State

RAPID CITY, S.D. – The South Dakota Board of Regents recognized student organizations from South Dakota School of Mines & Technology and Black Hills State University this week for their outstanding academic, community, and organizational work.

Student groups from SD Mines receiving awards were:

- **Award for Academic Excellence – StudyDakota** was created to offer tutoring resources that help students at all levels succeed academically. The program aims to assist middle and high school students in the Rapid City area, while engaging college volunteers by reinforcing important concepts from their major areas of study. In its first year, the program recruited 42 tutors and hosted more than 25 tutoring sessions in a few months' time.



- **Community Service Award – Lambda Chi Alpha** is a fraternity of male students emphasizing service and strong moral values. Members of the fraternity volunteered more than 250 hours in the past year, even with pandemic-related restrictions. The group assisted in building a trail near campus, served dinner to other college students as part of

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Brothers Feeding Others, conducted trash cleanup, and volunteered for Feeding South Dakota.



- **Award for Organizational Leadership** – The **Society of Physics Students** promotes interest in the study of physics and professional support among its members. While navigating pandemic restrictions last year, the group co-hosted two socials and several virtual colloquiums with the Department of Physics. They also shared information about research activity on campus through student organization fairs, campus open houses, and off-campus events.



BHSU student groups receiving the special regents' awards were:

- **Award for Academic Excellence** – The **Health Sciences Student Organization** prepares pre-professional students for careers in healthcare. Members receive help with contacts to job training or shadowing activities. They are also supported as they apply to continue their studies in professional academic programs. In the past year, members organized blood drives and the Spearfish Middle School's science fair held on the Black

Hills State campus.



- **Community Service Award – KBHU-TV**, the on-campus, student-led television station at BHSU, produces timely information for students, faculty/staff, and the community. Students have worked hard to keep the station up to date with technical enhancements. One of their projects was to create a short video of local Christmas light displays, set to BHSU concert choir music, for nursing home residents who were unable to participate in usual holiday traditions due to the pandemic.



- **Award for Organizational Leadership – The Student Government Association** fosters productive communication among students, administration, faculty, and staff. The association worked on projects to keep students engaged during the pandemic, sponsored a Trick or Treat So Others Can Eat campaign to support the local food pantry, and hosted a local legislator debate and weekly speakers' series.

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