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Regents Award Student Organizations at SDSU and USD

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

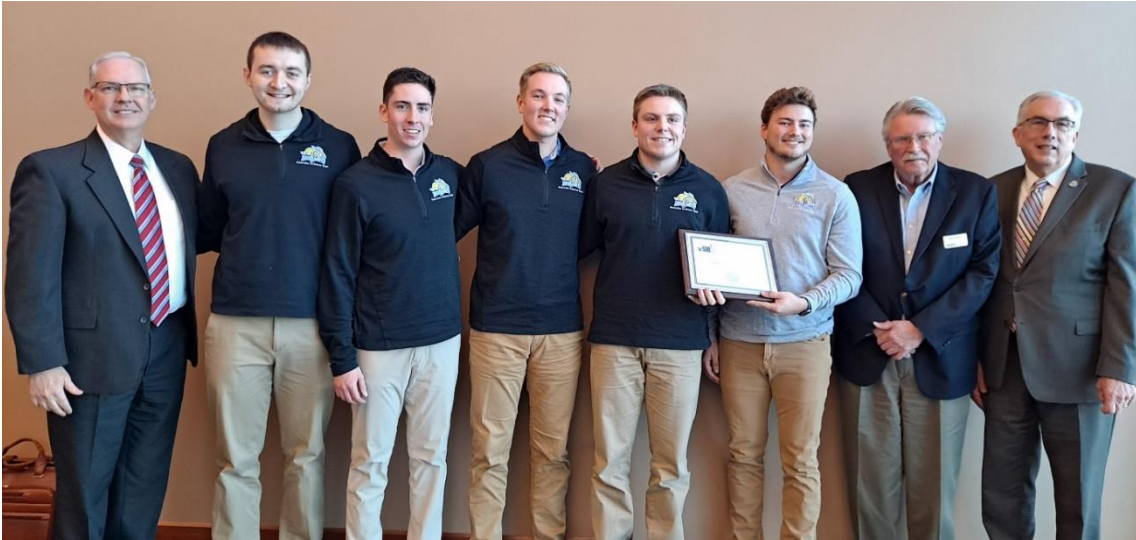
Student groups from SDSU receiving awards were:

- **Award for Academic Excellence** – The **Pre-Law Society** hosts workshops, guest speakers, and field trips for pre-law students at SDSU. The group sponsors LSAT workshops that help students learn more about the exam required for law school admission. The society also hosted a successful Law School Expo, inviting 17 law schools to visit virtually with students and answer their questions.



- **Community Service Award** – The **Exercise Science Club** encourages health and wellness through exercise and educational experiences. Members participate in Healthy Movement, creating and leading workout programs for older residents in the Brookings community. The club works with the SDSU exercise science program, the campus wellness center, and student health to support Exercise is Medicine On Campus, a global

health initiative managed by the American College of Sports Medicine.



- **Award for Organizational Leadership** – The **Robotics Club** offers students new experiences working with projects in the field of robotics. The club recently doubled its membership and formed a new team to compete in an autonomous snowplow competition. They also launched a virtual ‘battle-bot’ programming competition for high school students and advanced within the NASA Robotic Mining Competition.



USD student groups receiving the special regents’ awards were:

- **Award for Academic Excellence** – Outstanding students pursuing a health care career are invited to become members of **Alpha Eta Honor Society: Sigma Delta Chapter**. Selection into the society is based on high academic achievement. The society’s motto, “Together We Serve,” guides the group. Its induction ceremony to welcome new members featured a special guest speaker, followed by a cord ceremony.



- **Community Service Award** – Members of **Alpha Phi Psi Chapter Sorority** aspire to high ideals of character, innovation, generosity, and sisterhood. Members are encouraged to focus on academic achievement and collegiate learning experiences. During the pandemic, the group’s first virtual event, the Red Dress Gala, raised more than \$16,000 for women’s heart health. A Go Red Week fundraiser later earned another \$1,300 for the same cause.



- **Award for Organizational Leadership** – The **Asian American Student Association (AASA)** represents Asian culture, creates alliances among its members, and organizes activities to engage the university community in Asian culture and traditions. Two of the group’s biggest events each year are the Diwali Festival of Lights and the Asian Lunar New Year celebration. Native and ethnic foods and other activities help AASA students generate a new understanding of Asia for others in the Vermillion community.



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About the South Dakota Board of Regents: The Board of Regents has constitutional authority to govern the system of public higher education in the state of South Dakota. Supported by an executive director and staff, the board provides leadership and sets policies for programs and services delivered by its six public universities and two schools serving special K-12 populations. The public universities (and home campus locations) are Black Hills State University, Spearfish; Dakota State University, Madison; Northern State University, Aberdeen; South Dakota School of Mines & Technology, Rapid City; South Dakota State University, Brookings; and the University of South Dakota, Vermillion. The special schools are South Dakota School for the Deaf, Sioux Falls, and South Dakota School for the Blind & Visually Impaired, Aberdeen.