

SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS

Planning and Resource Development

AGENDA ITEM: 5 – B (1)

DATE: March 30- April 1, 2016

SUBJECT: Student Organization Awards – SDSM&T

Award for Academic Excellence

2014 and 2015 SDSM&T Award for Academic Excellence: Society of Physics Students (SPS)

The purpose of the Society of Physics Students is to advance the knowledge of physics in the region, promote the interest of physics in the surrounding academic and local communities, and nurture a professional attitude amongst its members. SPS members are actively sought out by faculty members on campus to participate in research and outreach related projects, both directly and indirectly relating to SPS and Physics. Membership and interest in SPS has grown exponentially over the last two years due to the outstanding efforts made by SPS members and their faculty/staff supporters.

Award for Community Service

2014 SDSM&T Award for Community Service: American Chemical Society (ACS)

The American Chemical Society's purpose is to explore and promote the wonders of chemistry. ACS understands the importance of community service and through its outreach efforts was able to interact and serve nearly a thousand young people this past year by educating them about the wonders of chemistry. They did this by providing chemistry magic shows and booths for hands on demonstrations at area libraries, spending a day in the classroom doing demonstrations and hands on activities for 7th and 8th graders, and participating in several other events targeted at young people.

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RECOMMENDED ACTION OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The SDSM&T Student Organization Awards will be presented at the meeting.

2015 SDSM&T Award for Community Service: Cycling Club

The SDSM&T Cycling Club has participated in many community service activities across the city, region, state, and nation. This participation has included volunteer work, trail building, fixing bicycles for children in need, and a commitment to pledge their time to a nonprofit organization called Free Bikes 4 Kids. Students in the club have demonstrated their love and passion for cycling by making a difference in people lives.

Award for Organizational Leadership

2014 SDSM&T Award for Organizational Leadership: Vet's Club

The SDSM&T Veteran's Club was formed in the spring of 2006 in response to an increased veteran population at SDSM&T. This organization is comprised of students who are willing to dedicate time and support to Active Duty members and veterans in the community, student veterans attending SDSM&T, and family members of deployed students. This organization has become a vocal and physical presence on the campus and in the community. Membership has increased to 81 members, which represents 60% of the overall student veteran population of 134. One-third of these 81 members are considered active members that regularly attend meetings, events, and community service activities.

2015 SDSM&T Award for Organizational Leadership: Professional Development Institute for Students (PDI)

The Professional Development Institute for Students Leaders (PDI) is a select group of Mines students who are dedicated to the advancement of professional development and leadership for all students through the Mines Advantage program. PDI is comprised of approximately two dozen students who are nominated, interviewed, and selected from a very competitive process. PDI members work to engage their fellow students in developing the competencies of leadership and teamwork, communication, cultural and global diversity, civic involvement, career preparation, and personal development. The two largest PDI events are the Fall Leadership Retreat and the Spring Professional Development Conference. Other PDI events this year included the Mines Advantage Organization Challenge, Free Hugs Day, MLK Day Service Food Drive, Leadership training to Junior Leadership Rapid City, career fair employer liaisons, and team building facilitation to Black Hills Energy and Newell High School.