

SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS

Planning and Resources Development

AGENDA ITEM: 5 – B (2)

DATE: March 30-April 1, 2016

SUBJECT: Student Organization Awards – BHSU (2015)

At its March 31, 2016 meeting, the Board of Regents certified the Student Organization Award winners for Black Hills State University. The award winners are as follows:

BHSU Award for Academic Excellence: English Club

English Club is an educational and social organization, which promotes the study of literature, writing of prose and poetry, the Film Series, the Annual Short Story Writing Contest and publication of the Green Bowl Review. After having won the campus award for Most Improved Student Organization in April 2015, it continued its momentum of becoming a large artistic and community presence on the BHSU campus. Major activities included hosting several major events related to poetry slams and creative writing readings.

BHSU Award for Community Service: BHSU Talking Hands

BHSU Talking Hands strives to educate others about sign language (American Sign Language, Signing Exact English, along with other forms of sign language). Its purpose is to help students, faculty, staff, and community members learn sign language while developing lasting relationships. As an organization it wants to have both community and university involvement. It has done this by volunteering and participating in university activities such as homecoming events, a dodgeball tournament, and the Lip Sync Battle for student organizations. In the community, members have participated in activities such as teaching sign language to children at area Boys and Girls Club as well as performing for community groups to introduce them to the power of sign language.

BHSU Award for Organizational Leadership: Health Sciences Student Organization (HSSO)

Dedicated to students interested in pursuing careers in medicine and healthcare, the Health Sciences Student Organization provides educational information, internship opportunities, social programs, community service projects, and guest speakers to benefit all students who would like to continue their education in the various medical fields. In addition to being an active student organization on campus through participation in monthly meetings, recruitment fairs, and campus activities, HSSO has focused its energy and leadership in three areas: Nerd Night, Professional Development Speakers Series, and the BHSU Science Fair.

RECOMMENDED ACTION OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The BHSU Student Organization Awards will be presented at the meeting.