

**SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS**

**Planning and Resources Development**

**AGENDA ITEM: 8 – B**

**DATE: June 27-29, 2017**

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**SUBJECT: Student Organization Awards – NSU**

**NSU Award for Academic Excellence: Speech & Debate Team**

The purpose of the NSU Speech & Debate Team is to enhance critical thinking and speaking skills by giving students opportunities to practice and compete in both debate and competitive speaking events. The Team has had immense success over the course of the past year. One of its debate teams took second place at the National Pi Kappa Delta tournament, which has spring boarded not only the group’s continued success but has also increased its recognition both within the campus and the forensics circuit around the tri-state area. With this recognition, the Team has seen a 125% increase in membership, growing from a small competitive debate team of about eight people to a team of at least twenty competitors who have produced numerous successes in debate and individual events. Most recently the Team took second place for the debate sweepstakes at the state tournament.

**NSU Award for Community Service: Collegians in Christ’s Service, (C.I.C.S.) Lutheran Campus Ministry**

In addition to supporting students in their spiritual development and growth during their college experience, the purpose of C.I.C.S. is to promote dedication to community service, social justice, and diversity through local service and national service learning trips and experiences. The C.I.C.S. promotes community service by gathering and donating goods to local nonprofits. Additionally, the group recently took a service learning trip to Washington, D.C. where members volunteered at a day care and preschool for children of families who identify as homeless in the area. They learned how quickly homelessness occurs for families in D.C. due to job loss, the high cost of childcare, and other factors. Furthermore, by volunteering at the D.C. Central Kitchen the group learned about hunger, food waste and sustainability, as well as vocational opportunities for individuals who seek to make a new start after recovering from addictions and incarceration.

**NSU Award for Organizational Leadership: Korean Student Association**

The purpose of the Korean Student Association is to help students from Korea adjust to American life as well as to provide information about Korean culture to the NSU and Aberdeen communities. The group has hosted many activities to promote Korea and the Korean culture. These include a Korean Thanksgiving Day, Korean New Year’s Day, and participation in the Gypsy Day parade and CultureFest events. Korean Student Association also teaches a Woori Class, a class devoted to teaching the Korean language. This class averages 30 students and visits local elementary schools to teach children about Korean culture and language.

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**INFORMATIONAL ITEM**

The NSU Student Organization Awards will be presented at the meeting