

SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS

Planning and Resources Development

AGENDA ITEM: 5 – B (1)

DATE: March 28-30, 2017

SUBJECT: Student Organization Awards – BHSU

BHSU Award for Academic Excellence: South Dakota Educational Association

The purpose of the South Dakota Education Association is to provide professional development opportunities to education students at BHSU. In addition to several service projects undertaken by the association this year, the group has offered motivational talks at its meetings and then discussed how these concepts could be implemented into the students' future classrooms. Through the professional development series, the group brings all the grade levels together to provide a safe teaching community for BHSU education students and others interested in the subject matter.

BHSU Award for Community Service: Thompson Diversion Program

The purpose of the Thompson Diversion Program, named after the student leader who established it, Brittany Thompson, is to teach BHSU students to learn from their mistakes through restorative justice. This new program uses the nationally recognized SD Teen Court Program as a model, providing BHSU students the opportunity to take accountability for their actions, to learn from the experience, and make a difference in the community. As a brief description, the Thompson Diversion Program applies to students who are cited for either consumption or possession as a minor and the citation is their first offense. Students must enroll for the program and be approved by the Lawrence County state's attorney's. Once accepted, students attend a hearing in which their case is heard by a jury of their peers. Throughout the hearing, students are questioned by student defense attorneys and prosecutors. Once the jury has heard all of the necessary information, they create an individualized set of sanctions including community service, educational activities, and exercises in accountability to be completed by the student participant within an allotted period of time. Once the sanctions have been completed, the participants' citation are dismissed. In effect, successful completion of the program provides students a clean slate.

BHSU Award for Organizational Leadership: Campus Activities Board – Activity Grants Committee

Just in its second year of existence, the Activity Grants Committee allocates programming funds and resources to recognized BHSU student organizations. It was established to provide more programmatic advice and leadership to student groups in addition to allocating funds, which was previously done by the Student Senate. In addition to allocating funds, it focuses on ensuring successful programs and increasing BHSU student retention. The committee serves all student organizations which impacts the entire campus community.

INFORMATIONAL ITEM

The BHSU Student Organization Awards will be presented at the meeting