

SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS

Planning and Resource Development

AGENDA ITEM: 5 – B (2)

DATE: March 28-30, 2017

SUBJECT: Student Organization Awards – SDSM&T

SDSM&T Award for Academic Excellence: American Chemical Society (ACS)

The American Chemical Society's provides a platform for students to cultivate their passion for chemistry. ACS members cultivate a community of learning through their many on-campus demonstrations of which the most significant show is the Mythbusters presentation, which offers mind boggling chemistry experiments. ACS also puts on similar shows for local schools. Both demonstrations always leave students spellbound and excited for STEM pursuits. ACS also provides volunteer tutors for students having academic difficulty. Tutoring classes foster a community of academic success by allowing students to help their peers come to a greater understanding of the concepts.

SDSM&T Award for Community Service: Alpha Omega Epsilon

Alpha Omega Epsilon is a professional and engineering sorority composed of female engineering and technical science students. The sorority emphasizes professionalism, leadership, friendship, and sisterhood while promoting ideals and objectives that further the advancement of female engineers and technical scientists. The sisters of Alpha Omega Epsilon understand and appreciate the importance of community service and modeling effective leadership in and away from school. They are dedicated in their mission to serve others, give back, and in turn appreciate the experiences they gain.

SDSM&T Award for Organizational Leadership: Robotics Team

The Robotics Team, a multidisciplinary team that focuses on building land competition vehicles, has demonstrated exceptional organizational leadership with the FIRST Lego League (FLL) Rapid City Qualifier. FLL is an activity for teams of students who are 9-14 years. The teams design and build their LEGO Mindstorm robot to complete as many missions as possible within a 2.5 minute period. This provides a great opportunity for middle school aged student to learn about technology while also developing their communication and teaming skills. For the past six years, the SDSM&T Robotics Team has had up to a dozen members volunteer as Robot Game Refs and Robot Design Judges for the Rapid City Qualifier. Because the qualifier is normally held the first weekend in December around finals, Robotics Team members are challenged to coordinate their time with studies and to volunteer. Over the past six years, there have been over 450 middle school participants that have been positively impacted by the contributions of the Robotics Team.

INFORMATIONAL ITEM

The SDSMT Student Organization Awards will be presented at the meeting