

SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS

Planning, Governance, and Resource Development

AGENDA ITEM: 7 – F
DATE: June 26-28, 2018

SUBJECT

BHSU Sustainability Master Plan

CONTROLLING STATUTE, RULE, OR POLICY

None

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION

Sustainability is at the heart of BHSU’s culture as the institution works to educate in the Black Hills of South Dakota – an area sacred to our nation’s history and culture. We strive to be at the cutting edge of sustainable practices. A few of the institutions recent accomplishments include:

- President Tom Jackson, Jr. serves as Chair of the Sustainability and Sustainable Development Committee of the American Association of State College and Universities (AASCU) representing BHSU and South Dakota at the national level.
- BHSU is the only university in South Dakota to join the American College and University President's Climate Commitment.
- BHSU achieved a STARS Silver rating from the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE).
- The Hive and Buzz Shack earned the Green Restaurants certification by providing efficient energy and water use, green cleaning, and purchasing local and eco-friendly products.
- BHSU received the International Association of Physical Plant Administrators (APPA) Sustainability Award in 2014.
- BHSU was awarded the Campus Sustainability Achievement Award from the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) in 2017.
- BHSU’s Master of Science in Sustainability program is the only fully online sustainability program in the western part of the U.S., graduating its first class of sustainability professionals in 2015.
- BHSU is recognized as a Tree Campus USA by the Arbor Day Foundation.

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INFORMATIONAL ITEM

- The Black Hills Food Hub bridges the gap between local farmers and area cafeterias to provide local healthy food to a large demographic that may not otherwise have access to it. Currently, the BHFH delivers food directly from 25 producers to 14 buyers including Mount Rushmore and Rapid City Regional Hospital.
- Recent LED light upgrades have realized savings of over \$25,000 annually, which is enough energy to power 32 houses each year.

IMPACT AND RECOMMENDATION

The [Black Hills State University Sustainability Master Plan](#)¹ represents our commitment to a continued and expanding role as a leader in sustainability efforts in the region, state, and nation. It is a comprehensive plan that sets new impactful and life changing goals for BHSU students, faculty, and staff. Some of the major goals in the plan include:

- 100% renewable energy
- Northern Black Hills Recycling Hub
- Carbon Neutral by 2050
- Zero Waste Campus by 2030
- Resiliency Plan
- Performance Contract

BHSU personnel will be present to provide an overview of the Sustainability Master Plan and respond to questions from the Board.

ATTACHMENTS

None

¹ The entire plan can be found at http://www.bhsu.edu/portals/0/Student-Life/Go-Green/VER_BHSU_sustainability_master_plan_final.pdf.