

**SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS**

**Planning, Governance, and Resource Development**

**AGENDA ITEM: 5 – B**  
**DATE: March 27-29, 2018**

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**SUBJECT**

**BHSU Student Organization Awards**

**CONTROLLING STATUTE, RULE, OR POLICY**

None

**BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION**

At the March 2018 Board of Regents meeting, the Board is anticipated to approve the recommendations offered by each institution for the 2017 student organization awards winners. The winners of these awards are announced at Board meetings throughout 2018.

The BHSU Student Organization Awards will be presented at the March BOR meeting in Spearfish. Information about the BHSU student organization award winners can be found below:

BHSU Award for Academic Excellence: KBHU-TV

KBHU-TV provides opportunities for students to experience television broadcasting by servicing the campus with informational and entertaining programs. During the last academic year, KBHU-TV implemented bi-weekly news segments, which discussed current events on campus and in the community, and advertises for club and organization programs. This content is aired on both the TV station and YouTube. It also sponsored and live streamed the Student Senate Presidential Debate and Town Hall as well as produced commercials for clubs and organizations to help promote their events using mass media.

BHSU Award for Community Service: University Honors Club

The University Honors Club enhances the image of the Black Hills State University Honors Program, provides a basis for social activities, and represents the university and its honors program positively to prospective students, their families and the general public. Its goal is to get Honors students involved on campus and in the community. During the last academic year, the club participated in the following activities: welcome social for new members, Swarm Days float, Humane Society volunteering, student pantry and food drives, Geek Speaks – a lecture series on non-traditional topics, Furball fundraiser for the West River Spay Neuter Coalition, and the Thanks(for)giving blood drive.

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**INFORMATIONAL ITEM**

BHSU Award for Organizational Leadership: Environmental Sustainability Student Organization (ESSO)

The purpose of the Environmental Sustainability Student Organization (ESSO) is to protect and conserve while creating awareness to generate involvement surrounding environmental issues on campus and within the community. Through this mission, its members gain experience in volunteering and leadership through community engagement, education, and expansion of social networks. The group's significant events during the last academic year included the following: documentary/movie series Monday nights, conducted waste audit of residence halls to track waste stream data to use for BHSU zero waste goals, hiked to Lookout Mountain, produced biodiesel using used vegetable oil from Aviaands, traveled to Baltimore Maryland in 2016 and San Antonio Texas in 2017 to attend conferences for Sustainability in higher Education, and participated in the campus garden and lead garden workshops for students and the community

**IMPACT AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Board recognizes the important role that student organizations play in the regental system. Student organizations provide students the opportunity to connect with others who have similar interests as well as experience a sense of community, all of which increases the likelihood of successful college completion. They also provide students with opportunities for professional development by offering students practical opportunities to hone skills, including those in leadership and communication.

**ATTACHMENTS**

None