

SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS

Academic and Student Affairs

AGENDA ITEM: 7
DATE: October 2-3, 2019

SUBJECT

Diversity Panel: Intersection of Education and Workforce

CONTROLLING STATUTE, RULE, OR POLICY

None

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION

During its October meeting, the Board of Regents will host a panel discussion on the significance of educating future employees on diversity and cultural awareness. This discussion between the Board and business/industry professionals will take place from 3:30-5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 2 in the Dakota State University Beacom Collaboration Center in Madison.

The following individuals have confirmed their participation as panelists:

- David Owen, SD Chamber, President
- Nathan Sanderson, SD Retailers Association, Executive Director
- Carla Gatzke, Daktronics, VP for Human Resources
- Sandra Ogunremi, Regional Health, Manager Diversity, Inclusion & Equality
- Nicole Freeseemann, Raven, VP of Human Resources

IMPACT AND RECOMMENDATION

Each panelist will have an opportunity for a brief opening statement before questions are posed. Questions will include the following:

1. How does your company/industry define terms like “diversity” and “cultural awareness”?
2. Do you expect/does your industry expect employees to demonstrate diversity and cultural awareness competency?
3. How does cultural awareness and diversity training advance your company/industry in terms of productivity, ability to have productive interchanges, reach conclusions and move ideas, products, services, etc. ahead?
4. Why is cultural awareness and diversity training important in a rural state like South Dakota?
5. How do your best, most valued employees use their sensitivity to diversity and cultural awareness to promote your business both internally and externally?

ATTACHMENTS

None

INFORMATIONAL ITEM