

SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS

AGENDA ITEM: 3 – E
DATE: March 29-30, 2023

SUBJECT

NSU Student Organization Awards

CONTROLLING STATUTE, RULE, OR POLICY

None

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION

At the March 2022 Board of Regents meeting, the Board approved recommendations offered by each institution for the 2021 student organization award winners. The winners of these awards are announced at Board meetings throughout 2022; however, due to scheduling conflicts it was decided that the 2021 Northern State University (NSU) Student Organization Awards would be presented at the March 2023 BOR meeting in Aberdeen at which time the 2022 student organization award winners for 2022 would also be presented.

2021 NSU Award for Academic Excellence: Speech and Debate (Forensics)

The purpose of the NSU Speech & Debate Team is to enhance critical thinking and speaking skills by giving students opportunities to practice and compete in both debate and competitive speaking events. Overall, the Speech and Debate team has shown a focus on academic success in and out of the classroom. The team culture has always been to achieve excellence when it comes to academics and is further strived for by urging members to seek information from every possible opportunity.

2022 NSU Award for Academic Excellence: Honors Club

The NSU Honors Club is comprised of all members of the Northern State University Honors Program. The Honors Program provides academically gifted and highly motivated students an opportunity to challenge themselves. In addition to being the leaders and members of the NSU Honors Club, NSU Honors students are leaders in clubs and organizations across campus.

2021 NSU Award for Community Service: Honors Club

The NSU Honors Program provides academically gifted and highly motivated students opportunities to challenge themselves. In addition to being the leaders and members of the NSU Honors Club, NSU Honors students are leaders in clubs and organizations across campus. In 2021, the Honors Club organized a year-long service project called “Year of Appreciation Project.” Each month they chose a group that was underappreciated in the Aberdeen community and created a mini service project to show their appreciation for their

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effort to keep the Aberdeen community strong and healthy. Some examples of different groups included in this project were first responders, custodial staff members, nursing home residents, nursing home caretakers, teachers, bus drivers, nurses, and small businesses.

2022 NSU Award for Community Service: Honors Club

The Honors Program provides academically talented and highly motivated students opportunities to excel in the classroom, gain skills to lead recognized student organizations on campus, and conduct undergraduate research. In addition to being the leaders and members of the NSU Honors Club, NSU Honors students volunteer their time to help others. Significant events and activities that were conducted by the Honors Club in 2022 were the NSU Cancer Awareness Tree, Mental Health Tree, Bake Sale, Sponsoring a Grandparent, Valentine's Cards for residents of the Mother Joseph nursing home, Christmas Cards for Veterans, and sponsoring an adoption of a dog from the Humane Society.

2021 NSU Award for Organizational Leadership: NASA

The Native American Student Association (NASA) welcomes and respects the diversity of all people. The mission of NASA is to strengthen and promote relevant, cultural competencies on campus and throughout the Aberdeen community through leadership, mentoring and advocacy of American Indian issues. Anyone is welcome to be a part of NASA.

2022 NSU Award for Organizational Leadership: Campus Activities Board (CAB)

The Campus Activities Board is a volunteer university-chartered student organization that supports the mission of the university and meets the needs of its students by providing social, recreational and developmental programs that promote learning and personal development. They are to remain responsive to student needs, attitudes and interests; Provide a comprehensive and diverse program schedule during the academic year (August through May) that responds to those interests; facilitate the social and intellectual development of students by providing opportunities for student involvement and leadership development; and support the university's recruitment and retention efforts by providing meaningful activities that impact the quality of campus life and each student's satisfaction with their college experience.

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 practical opportunities to hone skills, including those in leadership and communication.

ATTACHMENTS

None