SUBJECT: Student Organization Awards – BHSU & SDSM&T

At its March 28, 2012 meeting, the Board of Regents certified the Student Organization Award winners for Black Hills State University and South Dakota School of Mines and Technology. The award winners are as follows:

**BHSU Award for Academic Excellence: Swarm Advertising Solutions**

The purpose of this organization is to promote an understanding of advertising, encourage advertising professionalism, develop individual abilities and promote fellowship and free exchange of ideas. This organization worked to raise funds & awareness for the Western Hills Humane Society, took a trip to Denver to tour Cohn Marketing advertising agency, and completed numerous design/advertising jobs for entities on campus and in the community. In addition, the students have been helping with design aspects of an experiential learning project related to the Higher Learning Commission.

**BHSU Award for Community Service: Yellow Jacket Veterans Club**

This organization is a social group that was formed to help military veterans adjust and become successful as civilians and college students. These students organized the 842nd Deployment Recognition Event which honored 17 students who were being deployed to Afghanistan. In addition, members volunteered with the “Women of War” project in Belle Fourche, a home that assists homeless women veterans. The club also collected funds to create care packages to send to deployed students. They have created shadowboxes dedicated to deployed students that will stay on display in the Student Union until they all return home from deployment. These students also helped serve dinner to over 250 veterans on Veterans Day 2011.

**BHSU Award for Organizational Leadership: ShutterBuzz**

The purpose of the organization is to provide an outlet for persons with an interest in photography to share their knowledge, learn from one another, and experience photography on a deeper level. This organization has held a silent auction fundraiser for the local food pantry, participated in the Black Hills Photo Shoot Out, took 17 individuals on a photography trip to (Continued)
Denver, CO, and hold weekly photography excursions in the Black Hills region.

**SDSM&T Award for Academic Excellence: South Dakota School of Mines American Society of Civil Engineers**

The South Dakota School of Mines American Society of Civil Engineers student chapter’s primary mission is to promote the professional development of its members. They hosted several esteemed academic speakers including the December 2011 graduation commencement speaker, Ralph O’Neill, the oldest living School of Mines alumnus. They assisted in hosting the Biannual Surveying Conference and the Annual Concrete Conference which provides continuing education to professionals from around the nation. They began hosting Civil Engineering specific FE Exam review sessions, which provides students the technical background, practice problems, test experience and guidance to properly study for and pass the FE Exam. Raising the academic standard is a top goal and they successfully achieved that goal this past year.

**SDSM&T Award for Community Service: Circle K International**

Circle K International is not only an organization devoted to community service; it also develops leaders and promotes fellowship. Circle K at South Dakota School of Mines has grown significantly over the past year. Circle K members truly do love service. With over 300 service hours in the fall 2011 semester, the organization hopes to have 750 hours by the end of the 2011-2012 school year. This year ten teams trick or treated around Rapid City and collected almost a ton of food to donate to the Feeding South Dakota Food Pantry. CKI has sponsored Black Hills Workshop to attend athletic and other activities. CKI is the strongest it has been in many years and continues to show signs of growth while living and loving to serve.

**SDSM&T Award for Organizational Leadership: Triangle Fraternity**

Triangle Fraternity, South Dakota Mines Chapter was founded upon the principles of honor, friendship, character, brotherhood, courage and ideals fostering both professional development and a network of life-lasting friendships. Its members serve in leadership roles on campus to include the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, which has tripled in membership and grown into a highly active organization due in large part to Triangle members’ leadership; M-Week Committee, Inter-Fraternity Council, Student Ambassadors, Student Senate and the Leadership Development Team. Community service activities include the Red Ribbon Parade, Highway Cleanup, and Habitat for Humanity. Members have a sustained record of leadership within their fraternity, student government, and student organizations.