

PEGGY GORDON MILLER
Citation for the Regents Honorary Degree of
Doctor of Public Service

In recognition of extraordinary service and leadership to the South Dakota system of public higher education, the South Dakota Board of Regents awards its highest honor, an honorary doctorate in public service, to Dr. Peggy Gordon Miller.

Under Dr. Peggy Miller's leadership for the past nine years, South Dakota State University has grown into a Division I university serving a record 11,377 students. This university today is a testament to her efforts to increase scholarship opportunities, partner campus-based research activities with local and regional economic development, and upgrade the physical plant through new construction and renovation.

Dr. Miller's achievements include creation of the Jackrabbit Guarantee scholarship program and the Lead Forward Land Grant plan for SDSU. Under her leadership SDSU experienced significant growth in contracts and grant activity, doctoral-level programming, and specialized research centers, earning it the Carnegie Foundation designation as a research university with high research activity. Through Dr. Miller's efforts, the Board of Regents created the Geographic Information Science Center of Excellence, a major research, teaching, and service center incorporating the combined strengths of SDSU and EROS Data Center scientists and scholars in a collaborative program.

Dr. Miller credits a dedicated faculty and staff, a strong support from students, the community, and alumni, for the growth of SDSU, which has been achieved through careful planning and a vision for the future. In recognition thereof, the South Dakota Board of Regents, on behalf of the citizens of South Dakota, bestows upon Dr. Peggy Gordon Miller the degree and title, Honorary Doctor of Public Service, reserved for individuals whose exceptional personal and professional contributions merit special acknowledgement.