

SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS

AGENDA ITEM: 3 – D (1)

DATE: October 4-5, 2023

SUBJECT

Student Organization Awards – SDSMT

CONTROLLING STATUTE, RULE, OR POLICY

None

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION

At the March 2023 Board of Regents meeting, the Board approved recommendations offered by each institution for the 2022 student organization award winners. The winners of these awards are announced at Board meetings throughout 2023. South Dakota School of Mines and Technology (SDSMT) Student Organization Awards will be presented at the October BOR meeting in Rapid City.

2022 SDSMT Award for Academic Excellence: Lambda Chi Alpha

Lambda Chi Alpha is a national men's fraternity with over 185 active chapters and colonies nationwide and 300,000 members. The Pi-Mu chapter of Lambda Chi Alpha at South Dakota Mines has since their charter been founded on the pillar of academic success among members. Over the past year, this organization has seen significant academic success and improvement. Reflecting upon the organization's cumulative GPA, their members have worked tirelessly to improve from the Spring 2022 semester into the Fall 2022 semester. Their organization's cumulative term GPA for Spring 2022 was 2.957; however, through dedication and members holding each other accountable in their classes we were able to improve our Fall 2022 cumulative term GPA to 3.165. This improvement also awarded them with the highest grade point average for the Fall 2022 term across all Greek organizations at South Dakota Mines.

2022 SDSMT Award for Community Service: Mines Vex U Robotics

The South Dakota Mines VEX U robotics team is a firm believer and supporter of STEM Outreach. In accordance with their own experience and the growing need for various fields of STEM, Mines VEX U Robotics spends a large amount of their time and effort providing STEM opportunities to their local community and surrounding area. This previous year they totaled about 554 hours volunteering at various events, competitions, and outreach.

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INFORMATIONAL ITEM

2022 SDSMT Award for Organizational Leadership: Society of Physics Students (SPS)

The Society of Physics Students (SPS) continues its honored tradition of representing South Dakota Mines and the Physics department. SPS exists to help students transform themselves into contributing members of the professional community. Supporting every undergraduate student with an interest in physics and astronomy excel, SPS is open to everyone and seeks to assist every undergraduate department help students succeed, regardless of major. They attend numerous campus events to help promote the university to surrounding communities, updating them on research and ongoing efforts at South Dakota Mines.

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