SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS

Academic and Student Affairs
Consent

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AGENDA ITEM: 5 – K (2)
DATE: March 29-30, 2023

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SUBJECT
   Request to Seek Accreditation – SDSU (USGIF)

CONTROLLING STATUTE, RULE, OR POLICY
   BOR Policy 1:10 – Relationship of Curriculum and Instruction to Statutory Objectives

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION
   Board of Regents Policy 1:10 specifies that "Each campus must seek and receive Board approval before applying for initial accreditation or an expanded scope of accreditation for academic programs." In accordance with Board policy, South Dakota State University requests approval to seek accreditation from the following accrediting agencies:

   Accrediting Agency: United States Geospatial Intelligence Foundation (USGIF)

   Program: Geospatial Intelligence Minor & Geospatial Intelligence Graduate Certificate

   Advantages: Accreditation will give students who ear the minor/graduate certificate a credential when seeking jobs in national security, especially by the geospatial intelligence community.

   The Higher Learning Commission (HLC), a regional accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education, awards institutional accreditation for higher education institutions in South Dakota. A variety of unique organizations award specialized/program accreditation within distinct programs or departments at Regental institutions. A general reference document on institutional and specialized/program accreditation is available on the BOR website at the link below.

   - Special Analysis: Accreditation in Higher Education

IMPACT AND RECOMMENDATION
   SDSU anticipates a one-time application fee of $350 for initial accreditation, and an annual renewal fee of $2,500 to be covered through department funds. SDSU will also be required

<div align="right">(Continued)</div>

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DRAFT MOTION 20230329_5-K(2):
   I move to approve SDSU's request to seek accreditation from the United States Geospatial Intelligence Foundation for their Minor and Graduate Certificate in Geospatial Intelligence.

to pay for travel costs for the required site visit by an accreditation team of three people, which is anticipated to cost $5,000.

Board staff recommends approval.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment I – SDSU Request to Seek Accreditation Form: United States Geospatial Intelligence Foundation

SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS FORMS

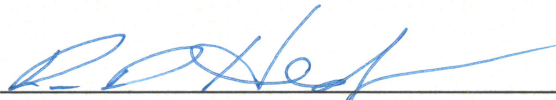# Request to Seek Accreditation

Use this form to request permission to seek accreditation of an approved program. Board of Regents (BOR) action is required to seek program accreditation.

UNIVERSITY:	SDSU
PROGRAM:	**Geospatial Intelligence Minor & Geospatial Intelligence Graduate Certificate**
CIP CODE:	43.0407
UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT:	**Geography & Geospatial Sciences**
UNIVERSITY DIVISION:	**Natural Sciences**

University Approval

To the Board of Regents and the Executive Director: I certify that I have read this proposal, that I believe it to be accurate, and that it has been evaluated and approved as provided by university policy.

_____   1- 2-23
President of the University   Date

1. **Level of program seeking accreditation (*place an "X" in the appropriate box*):**

    ☒ Certificate   ☐ Associate   ☒ Bachelor's

    ☐ Doctoral   ☐ Master's

2. **Accrediting Agency:** United States Geospatial Intelligence Foundation (USGIF)

3. **What are the advantages of accreditation?** It will give students who earn the minor/graduate certificate a credential when seeking jobs in national security, especially by the geospatial intelligence community.

4. **What are the anticipated costs involved in accreditation, including:**

    A. **Costs involved in undergoing self-study and preparing the application for accreditation:** No cost. Will be done by department head.

    B. **Out-of-pocket costs related to dues or site visits:**
       $350 accreditation application fee.

Program Forms, Request to Seek Accreditation (last revised 08/2016)

$5,000 on site costs for an accreditation team of three people for travel, hotel, and food.

C.   **Base budget implications including incremental costs and minimum base resources required (dollars and FTE):**
The annual accreditation fee for the USGIS beyond the initial fee for the review is $2,500

5. **What is the source of the revenue needed?**
Department funds

6. **What is the estimated date for submission of accreditation application?**
August 20, 2022. Submitted and approved.