

# **SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS**

## **Academic and Student Affairs**

**AGENDA ITEM: 7 – D (1)**

**DATE: October 5-6, 2022**

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### **SUBJECT**

**BOR Policies 1:10:1 through 1:10:6 – University Mission Statements (First and Final Reading)**

### **CONTROLLING STATUTE, RULE, OR POLICY**

[BOR Policy 1:10:1](#) – University of South Dakota Mission Statement

[BOR Policy 1:10:2](#) – South Dakota State University Mission Statement

[BOR Policy 1:10:3](#) – South Dakota School of Mines and Technology Mission Statement

[BOR Policy 1:10:4](#) – Black Hills State University Mission Statement

[BOR Policy 1:10:5](#) – Dakota State University Mission Statement

[BOR Policy 1:10:6](#) – Northern State University Mission Statement

[SDBOR Strategic Plan](#)

[Senate Bill 55 Recommendations](#)

### **BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION**

Excerpt from Senate Bill 55 (SB55) Recommendation:

The Task Force recommends the Board of Regents institute a new institutional mission framework that more clearly defines the individual contributions and expertise of each institution.

Excerpt from the August Board Retreat:

Goal 1 of the strategic plan is Governance, and states that “The Board of Regents shall govern the six public universities and two special schools to engage, advocate and ensure stewardship in post-secondary public education policy, resource utilization and overall Regental effectiveness.” One of the objectives outlined in Goal 1 includes mission review and revision.

The executive director and the presidents began embarking on the mission work during winter of 2021 after the Senate Bill 55 recommendations were approved by the Board of Regents. This work included various discussions during their Council of Presidents and Superintendents (COPS) meetings and during the COPS retreat. At the August BOR

(Continued)

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### **DRAFT MOTION 20221005\_7-D(1):**

I move to (1) waive the two-reading requirement of By-Laws Section 5.5.1, and (2) approve the first and final reading of the new proposed BOR Policies 1:10:1 through 1:10:6, as presented in Attachment I.

retreat, a discussion with the Board of Regents was held to discuss various aspects for the attached updated BOR Policies. The universities were able to work on drafting of the policy documents before the Board of Regents in this item.

Specifically, the policies will now include the following sections:

1. Purpose
2. Definitions
3. University Structure
4. Academic Curriculum and Credentials
5. Research and Economic Development [for Research and Special Focus]
6. Partnerships [for Comprehensive Regional]

These updated policies now reflect a more university specific mission for which the university has been designated as one of three categories: Comprehensive Regional, Special Focus or Research. These designations were initially recommended by the SB55 taskforce and further adopted by the Board of Regents and universities.

## **IMPACT AND RECOMMENDATION**

Provided in Attachment I are the final clean versions of the new mission statements for each of the universities.

Since the Board of Regents and the universities have worked over the past several months to complete this final revision, it is recommended by Dr. Brian Maher for approval of BOR Policy 1:10:1, 1:10:2, 1:10:3, 1:10:4, 1:10:5, and 1:10:6.

By approving these policies, this will conclude the current work on the Mission Review as recommended by the SB55 Taskforce report and satisfy in part the strategic plan on the policy revision of the mission statements.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment I – BOR Policy 1:10:1 University of South Dakota;  
BOR Policy 1:10:2 South Dakota State University;  
BOR Policy 1:10:3 South Dakota School of Mines and Technology;  
BOR Policy 1:10:4 Black Hills State University;  
BOR Policy 1:10:5 Dakota State University; and  
BOR Policy 1:10:6 Northern State University



## SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS

### Policy Manual



**SUBJECT:** University of South Dakota Mission Statement

**NUMBER:** 1:10:1

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#### **A. PURPOSE**

The South Dakota Board of Regents regards the research universities of South Dakota as valuable contributors to the state's system of higher education. Research universities offer a broad array of undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs and are characterized as doctoral granting with a Carnegie Classification of very high or high research activity.

Universities operating within this sector are nationally recognized research institutions with significant commitments to the receipt of external funding. In addition, research universities promote the research activities of their faculty, staff, and students. The Board of Regents recognizes that research universities have unique characteristics and are critical to the state and the South Dakota system of higher education.

The principles outlined in this policy serve as overarching directions for research universities reflecting efficient and effective roles in scholarly research and economic development. In addition, research university functions align with Board of Regents strategies to advance student access, affordability, degree completion rates, and quality education.

#### **B. DEFINITIONS**

1. **Board of Regents:** Defined as the constitutional body responsible for governing the Unified System of Public Higher Education in South Dakota, which encompasses its supervision, coordination, management, and regulation. Board of Regents Policy 1:0, 1:1 and SDCL § 13-49 through § 13-53 provides the authority to govern academic programming.
2. **Institution:** Defined as one of the six (6) universities: Black Hills State University, Dakota State University, Northern State University, South Dakota School of Mines and Technology, South Dakota State University, and University of South Dakota.
3. **Statutory Mission:** The institutional mission defined under South Dakota Codified Law (SDCL).
4. **Carnegie Classification:** A classification given to a university or college. The Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education provides a framework for recognizing and describing institutional diversity in the United States.
5. **Doctoral University – High Research Activity:** USD has a Carnegie Classification of doctoral university/high research activity. This classification includes institutions that awarded at least 20 research/scholarship doctoral degrees during the update year and

institutions with below 20 research/scholarship doctoral degrees that awarded at least 30 professional practice doctoral degrees in at least two programs.

### **C. UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH DAKOTA ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE**

University of South Dakota (USD), being the first postsecondary university in the Dakotas (1862), known as the flagship university with a comprehensive statutory portfolio. USD understands its identity and responsibility to ensure full implementation of teaching and learning; research, scholarship, and creative activity; and service and outreach.

USD has fundamental units serving the state of South Dakota:

1. **Main Campus (Vermillion):** The University of South Dakota's main campus in Vermillion is the state's oldest postsecondary institution. The campus primarily serves residential students in undergraduate, professional, and graduate programs. The campus includes the College of Arts & Sciences, Beacom School of Business, School of Health Sciences, School of Education, and College of Fine Arts. The Native American Studies center is hosted on the campus of USD.
2. **Sanford School of Medicine:** The Sanford School of Medicine is the only public medical school in South Dakota. The school provides nationally recognized medical education and research with an emphasis on rural medicine.
3. **Knudson School of Law:** The Knudson School of Law is the only public law school in South Dakota. The school prepares lawyers and judges for the federal, state, and American Indian justice systems.
4. **University of South Dakota – Sioux Falls:** USD – Sioux Falls (USD-SF) is a non-residential satellite site of USD specifically connected to the health sciences hub including nursing, social work, nurse anesthesia practice, center for the prevention of child maltreatment, and center for rural health improvement. In addition, USD-SF will also provide offering toward educational and business career pathways and other workforce needed programs as approved.
5. **Discovery District and GEAR Center:** The Discovery District and the Graduate Education and Applied Research (GEAR) Center exist as part of a public/private research park in Sioux Falls.

### **D. ACADEMIC CURRICULUM AND CREDENTIALS**

USD is statutorily authorized through SDCL § 13-57-1 and 3-57-3.1 to offer academic programs in the liberal arts and sciences and education and is authorized by statute to offer business, fine arts, law, and medical education. USD has the authority to credential certificates, associate degrees, baccalaureate degrees, master's degrees and doctoral degrees provided formal approval by the Board of Regents. SDCL § 13-57-3.2 designated USD to provide the Native American studies center. The Board of Regents may authorize academic programs outside of the statutory mission as identified by the Regents due to workforce needs, strategic needs of the state, etc. All program requests must comply with BOR Policy 2:23 and 2:23.1.

## **E. RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

The Carnegie Classification of Doctoral/High Research Activity designates USD as an institution providing comprehensive graduate programming as part of their research activities. This designation includes offering degrees in a breadth of fields, both in professional practice and research-focused programming, at the doctoral level.

USD's basic and applied research and creative scholarly activities support a vibrant South Dakota economy and solve critical problems within the state and region. Examples include developing improved treatments for veterans with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and identifying the distribution and spread of invasive, noxious weeds in farmland.

In partnership with the National Institute of Standards and Technology and the Small Business Administration, USD provides crucial state-wide support to South Dakota's small- and medium-sized businesses. These partnerships help manufacturers improve their processes and enterprises identify new product lines.

## **FORMS / APPENDICES:**

None

## **SOURCE:**

BOR March 1991; BOR October 1992; BOR December 1993; BOR May 1996; BOR December 2001; BOR December 2003; BOR October 2019; BOR October 2022.



## SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS

### Policy Manual



**SUBJECT:** South Dakota State University Mission Statement

**NUMBER:** 1:10:2

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#### **A. PURPOSE**

The South Dakota Board of Regents regards the research universities of South Dakota as valuable contributors to the state's system of higher education. Research universities offer a broad array of undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs and are characterized as doctoral granting with a Carnegie Classification of very high or high research activity.

Universities operating within this sector are nationally recognized research institutions with significant commitments to externally funded impactful research. Faculty, staff, and students are actively involved in research activities. The Board of Regents recognizes that research universities have unique characteristics within the South Dakota system of higher education.

The principles outlined in this policy serve as overarching directions for research universities reflecting efficient and effective roles in research and economic development. Research university functions align with Board of Regents strategies to advance student access, affordability, degree completion rates, and quality education.

#### **B. DEFINITIONS**

1. **Board of Regents:** Defined as the constitutional body responsible for governing the Unified System of Public Higher Education in South Dakota, which encompasses its supervision, coordination, management, and regulation. Board of Regents Policy 1:0, 1:1 and SDCL § 13-49 through § 13-53 provides the authority to govern academic programming.
2. **Institution:** Defined as one of the six (6) universities: Black Hills State University, Dakota State University, Northern State University, South Dakota School of Mines and Technology, South Dakota State University, and University of South Dakota.
3. **Statutory Mission:** The institutional mission defined under South Dakota Codified Law (SDCL).
4. **Carnegie Classification:** A classification given to a university or college. The Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education provides a framework for recognizing and describing institutional diversity in the United States.
5. **Doctoral University – High Research Activity:** SDSU has a Carnegie Classification of doctoral university/high research activity. This classification includes institutions that awarded at least 20 research/scholarship doctoral degrees during the update year and institutions with below 20 research/scholarship doctoral degrees that awarded at least 30 professional practice doctoral degrees in at least two (2) programs.

- 6. Land-grant Organization:** A land-grant college or university is an institution that has been designated by its state legislature or Congress to receive the benefits of the Morrill Acts of 1862, 1890, and 1994. A key component of the land-grant system is the agricultural experiment station program created by the Hatch Act of 1887 and the cooperative extensions service created by the Smith-Lever Act of 1914.

### **C. SOUTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE**

South Dakota State University (SDSU) was granted the responsibility to serve as the State of South Dakota's land-grant institution of higher education through the federal enabling act of statehood in 1889. With this responsibility came the expectation to collaborate and partner with other land-grant universities throughout the United States to ensure groundbreaking discoveries and technologies positively impacting society.

SDSU understands its identity and responsibility as the state's land-grant university. This understanding extends to the tripartite mission of the 1862 Morrill Act, 1887 Hatch Act, and the 1914 Smith-Lever Act, with responsibility for teaching and learning; research, scholarship, and creative activity; and service and outreach.

SDSU has fundamental units serving the state of South Dakota:

- 1. Main Campus (Brookings):** South Dakota State University is the states land-grant university, headquartered in Brookings, South Dakota, with extension, teaching, outreach, and other activities throughout the state. The SDSU mission statement is grounded in the tripartite mission of teaching and learning at the undergraduate and graduate levels; research, scholarship, and creative activity; and service and outreach. The research mission is one of the cornerstones of a land grant university and directly supports educational programming content. The campus serves residential students in undergraduate, professional, and graduate programs. The campus includes the College of Agriculture, Food & Environmental Sciences, College of Arts, Humanities, & Social Sciences, College of Education & Human Sciences, College of Natural Sciences, College of Nursing, College of Pharmacy & Allied Health Professionals, and the Jerome J. Lohr College of Engineering.
- 2. Agricultural Experiment Station (Statewide):** Agriculture Experiment Station (AES) is authorized by SDCL § 13-58-11 and tightly couples with the universities research mission. SDSU's research mission is to find solutions to current problems surrounding the environment, food production, nutrition, and economics, as well as identify opportunities for the future. The new knowledge created from our AES research enhances the quality of life in South Dakota through the beneficial use and development of human, economic and natural resources. In addition to enhancing the quality of life in our state, AES research directly supports the teaching programs offered by the College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences, the College of Education & Human Sciences, the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, the College of Natural Sciences, and the educational programs delivered by SDSU Extension.
- 3. Cooperative Extension (Statewide):** As a cornerstone of SDSU's land-grant university mission and authorized by SDCL § 13-54-1, SDSU Extension empowers citizens to be more competitive and successful in our growing global economy through education and

technical training or assistance. Its' purpose is to foster a learning community environment that empowers citizens to advocate for sustainable change that will strengthen agriculture, natural resources, youth, families, and the communities of South Dakota.

4. **State Animal Disease Research and Diagnostic Laboratory:** Critical to the mission of SDSU, and authorized by SDCL 13-58-13, is located at the main campus in Brookings, South Dakota.

#### **D. ACADEMIC CURRICULUM AND CREDENTIALS**

SDSU is statutorily authorized through SDCL § 13-58.1, to offer academic programs in the liberal arts and sciences and professional education in agriculture, education, engineering, home economics, business economics, nursing, and pharmacy. SDSU has the authority to credential certificates, associate degrees, baccalaureate degrees, master's degrees and doctoral degrees provided formal approval by the Board of Regents. The Board of Regents may authorize academic programs outside of the statutory mission as identified by the Regents due to workforce needs, strategic needs of the state, etc. All program requests must comply with BOR Policy 2:23 and 2:23.1.

#### **E. RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

As part of its land-grant mission, SDSU has a robust research enterprise including, but not limited to, the Agricultural Experiment Station and SDSU Extension, which provides a connection for scientists and South Dakota residents, taxpayers, and producers. SDSU is strongly committed to extending the research discovery and best practices to producers and consumers across the state, nation, and world.

Public university research and innovations feed growth and resiliency in South Dakota's economy. The state of South Dakota's land-grant university mission drives real solutions to dynamic challenges through research-based discovery and innovation. High quality, leading-edge university research programs also develop a knowledge-based workforce. University faculty engaged in research, scholarship and creative activity best serve our students as they are current and informed in their evolving discipline resulting in a high-quality educational experience for all students. Undergraduate students participating in rigorous land-grant university research gain experiential learning that differentiates them in the marketplace. Graduate students in land-grant university research laboratories gain hands-on research experience and leadership skills they use to drive innovation in the private and public sectors. SDSU's fundamental assets for fulfilling its land-grant research mission are stable, talented faculty and modern, reliable facilities and specialized equipment.



**FORMS / APPENDICES:**

None

**SOURCE:**

BOR March 1991; BOR May 1996; BOR December 2003; BOR May 2011; BOR October 2019; BOR October 2022.

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## SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS

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**SUBJECT:** South Dakota School of Mines and Technology Mission Statement

**NUMBER:** 1:10:3

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#### **A. PURPOSE**

The South Dakota Board of Regents regards the special focus universities of South Dakota as valuable contributors to the state's system of higher education. Special focus universities have a high concentration of degrees in a single field or set of related fields. Special focus universities offer master's and doctoral programs within their special focus area.

Universities operating within this sector are nationally recognized to promote research activities of their faculty, staff, and students. South Dakota School of Mines and Technology's (South Dakota Mines') research is propelling the workforce, economy, and student experience. The Board of Regents recognizes that special focus universities have unique characteristics and are critical to the success of the South Dakota system of higher education.

The principles outlined in this policy serve as overarching directions for special focus universities reflecting efficient and effective roles in scholarly research and economic development. In addition, special focus university functions align with the Board of Regents strategies to advance student access, affordability, degree completion rates, and quality education.

#### **B. DEFINITIONS**

1. **Board of Regents:** Defined as the constitutional body responsible for governing the Unified System of Public Higher Education in South Dakota, which encompasses its supervision, coordination, management, and regulation. Board of Regents Policy 1:0, 1:1 and SDCL § 13- 49 through § 13-53 provides the authority to govern academic programming.
2. **Institution:** Defined as one of the six (6) universities: Black Hills State University, Dakota State University, Northern State University, South Dakota School of Mines and Technology, South Dakota State University, and University of South Dakota.
3. **Statutory Mission:** The institutional mission defined under South Dakota Codified Law (SDCL).
4. **Carnegie Classification:** A classification given to a university or college. The Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education provides a framework for recognizing and describing institutional diversity in the United States. The Carnegie classification for South Dakota Mines (Mines) is a master's colleges and universities: medium programs. This classification is for institutions that award at least 50 master's degrees and fewer than 20 doctoral degrees.

5. **Special Focus University:** The Board of Regents has designated Mines as a special focus university. A special focus designation typically includes institutions that offer a high concentration of degrees in a single field or related fields.

### **C. SOUTH DAKOTA MINES ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE**

1. **Main Campus (Rapid City):** The Mines main campus located in Rapid City primarily serves residential students in undergraduate and graduate programs in STEM fields specific to the engineering and natural sciences. The campus includes the departments of Chemistry, Biology, and Health Sciences; Chemical and Biological Engineering; Civil and Environmental Engineering; Electrical Engineering and Computer Science; Geology and Geological Engineering; Humanities and Social Sciences; Industrial Engineering; Materials and Metallurgical Engineering; Mathematics; Mechanical Engineering; Mining Engineering and Management; Nanoscience and Biomedical Engineering; and Physics.
2. **Mining Experiment Station (Rapid City):** Designated as a department by SDCL 13-60.4 and is located on the main campus in Rapid City, South Dakota.
3. **Museum of Geology and Paleontology (Rapid City):** Designated as a department by SDCL 13-60.8 and is located on the main campus in Rapid City, South Dakota.

### **D. ACADEMIC CURRICULUM AND CREDENTIALS**

Mines is statutorily authorized, under SDCL § 13-60-1, to offer academic STEM fields specializing in engineering and natural sciences. Mines has the authority to offer the following academic credentials: certificates, associate degrees, baccalaureate degrees, master's degrees and doctoral degrees provided formal approval by the Board of Regents. The Board of Regents may authorize academic programs outside of the statutory mission as identified by the Regents due to workforce needs, strategic needs of the state, etc. All program requests must comply with BOR Policy 2:23 and 2:23.1.

### **E. RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Special research focus universities in South Dakota perform a wide range of research initiatives. While Mines has an emphasis in the areas of Engineering and the Sciences; its research provides the maximum opportunity to students seeking to study with top researchers and pursue careers in science and engineering. This is most important for those students pursuing graduate education. Collaborative partnerships continue to evolve between the special focus universities and the research universities. This research pierces the boundaries in generating new innovative ideas. Therefore, Mines collaborates with Regental and other research universities, governmental agencies, and industry from across the nation.

In addition to providing graduate student experience, research is a critical driver of both innovation and economic development. Working together with business and industry, Mines will foster continued research, economic development and innovation in South Dakota, the Great Plains region, and throughout the United States, and around the world.

**FORMS / APPENDICES:**

None

**SOURCE:**

BOR March 1991; BOR May 1996; BOR December 2003; BOR October 2019; BOR October 2022.

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## SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS

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**BLACK HILLS**  
STATE UNIVERSITY

**SUBJECT:** Black Hills State University Mission Statement

**NUMBER:** 1:10:4

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#### **A. PURPOSE**

The South Dakota Board of Regents regards the regional universities of South Dakota as valuable contributors to the state's system of higher education. The regional universities serve the educational and programming needs of their geographic region and offer several undergraduate and limited master's-level programs. The emphasis is on teaching and service with a limited focus on basic or applied research activity.

Universities operating within this sector are nationally recognized to promote access to affordable education in a regional location. Black Hills State University (BHSU) focuses on personalized teaching and student services. BHSU has unique characteristics and is critical in advancing student access, affordability, degree completion, and quality education in South Dakota.

The principles outlined in this policy serve as overarching directions for comprehensive universities reflecting efficient and effective roles in educational programming, professional development, community partnerships, and community engagement.

#### **B. DEFINITIONS**

1. **Board of Regents:** Defined as the constitutional body responsible for governing the Unified System of Public Higher Education in South Dakota, which encompasses its supervision, coordination, management, and regulation. Board of Regents Policy 1:0, 1:1 and SDCL § 13-49 through § 13-53 provides the authority to govern academic programming.
2. **Institution:** Defined as one of the six (6) universities: Black Hills State University, Dakota State University, Northern State University, South Dakota School of Mines and Technology, South Dakota State University, and University of South Dakota.
3. **Statutory Mission:** The institutional mission defined under South Dakota Codified Law (SDCL).
4. **Carnegie Classification:** A classification given to a university or college. The Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education provides a framework for recognizing and describing institutional diversity in the United States.
5. **Master's Colleges and University:** BHSU has a Carnegie Classification of master's colleges and universities-smaller programs. This classification includes institutions that awarded at least 50 master's degrees.

### **C. BLACK HILLS STATE UNIVERSITY ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE**

1. **Main Campus (Spearfish):** Black Hills State University's (BHSU) main campus located in Spearfish primarily serves traditional and non-traditional students with a larger population of part-time students in the undergraduate and master's programs. A sizeable percentage of students are either first-generation, low-income students, or students balancing their education with work and family. As a smaller campus, this comprehensive regional university offers a small unique campus culture. The campus includes the departments of Business, Education, Humanities, Performing and Visual Arts, Communications, Mathematics, Natural and Social Sciences, Studies in the Outdoors and Human Performance, and American Indian Studies.
2. **BHSU-Rapid City:** BHSU-Rapid City (BHSU-RC) is a non-residential satellite site of BHSU specifically connected to the health sciences. In addition, BHSU-RC will also provide offering toward tourism and other workforce needed programs as approved.

### **D. ACADEMIC CURRICULUM AND CREDENTIALS Curriculum**

BHSU is statutorily authorized to offer academic programs as outlined in SDCL § 13-59-1 in the preparation of elementary and secondary teachers, and a secondary purpose is to offer preprofessional, one-year and two-year terminal and junior college programs. BSHU has the authority to credential certificates, associate degrees, baccalaureate degrees, and master's degrees provided formal approval by the Board of Regents. SDCL § 13-59-2.1 designated BHSU to provide the western regional Native American studies center. The Board of Regents may authorize academic programs outside of the statutory mission as identified by the Regents due to workforce needs, strategic needs of the state, etc. All program requests must comply with BOR Policy 2:23 and 2:23.1.

### **E. PARTNERSHIPS COMPREHENSIVE REGIONAL UNIVERSITY**

Black Hills State University has several special partnerships with other entities resulting in established Centers or focused outreach efforts.

1. **Sanford Underground Research Laboratory:** Through an agreement with the South Dakota Science and Technology Authority, BHSU operates an underground laboratory at SURF. This lab's mission is to serve as a user facility by contracting with other labs at SURF to detect and count neutrinos. The lab provides many opportunities for undergraduate research. In addition, BHSU's partnership with SURF has expanded to include an artist in residency program, and the Sanford Science Education Center operates through a partnership with BHSU School of Education. This partnership is visibly evident on campus through the Sanford Science Education Center located Jonus Hall.
2. **South Dakota CEO:** This Women's Business Center is funded through the Small Business Administration and serves women entrepreneurs and small business owners throughout the state. Services include assisting with business start-up and expansions as well as general trainings and consulting services.
3. **Crazy Horse Memorial and the Indian University of North America:** Through an MOU, BHSU serves as the credit-bearing academic partner to the Indian University of

North America. Approximately 50-60 students attend special programs sponsored by Crazy Horse in the summer with courses offered by BHSU.

4. **Ellsworth Air Force Base:** Through an MOU, BHSU is one of two universities approved to offer programs and courses on base at Ellsworth. The MOU is effective through 2025.
5. **Black Hills State University at Rapid City:** BHSU provides administrative oversight and general operations to the higher education center in Rapid City. In addition, BHSU offers about 80% of all courses at the Center. Recently, the West River Health Science Center was approved to as a partnership between BHSU and SDSU to provide expanded nursing education to the Rapid City area.

#### **F. ROLE WITH SD COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES**

1. **Synergy with Community and Technical Colleges:** The success of regional universities will depend on collaborative work with regional community and technical colleges. As a regional comprehensive, partnering with the technical colleges is foundational to the mission. Partnerships should include programming, dual admissions, and advising.
2. **Synergy with Regental Universities:** As a regional comprehensive, partnering with regental institutions is essential; therefore, BHSU will build strong program partnerships with the other five (5) public universities. Program to Program agreements, collaboration with faculty and programming should be central to the mission of the regional comprehensive university.

#### **FORMS / APPENDICES:**

None

#### **SOURCE:**

BOR March 1991; BOR May 1995; BOR May 1996; BOR December 2003; BOR August 2006; BOR October 2019; BOR October 2022.



## SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS

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**SUBJECT:** Dakota State University Mission Statement

**NUMBER:** 1:10:5

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#### **A. PURPOSE**

The South Dakota Board of Regents regards the special focus universities of South Dakota as valuable contributors to the state's system of higher education. Special focus universities have a high concentration of degrees in a single field or set of related fields. Special focus universities offer master's and doctoral programs within their special focus area.

Universities operating within this sector are nationally recognized to promote research activities of their faculty, staff, and students. Dakota State University's research is propelling the workforce, economy, and student experience. The Board of Regents recognizes that special focus universities have unique characteristics and are critical to the success of the South Dakota system of higher education.

The principles outlined in this policy serve as overarching directions for special focus universities reflecting efficient and effective roles in scholarly research and economic development. In addition, special focus university functions align with the Board of Regents strategies to advance student access, affordability, degree completion rates, and quality education.

#### **B. DEFINITIONS**

1. **Board of Regents:** Defined as the constitutional body responsible for governing the Unified System of Public Higher Education in South Dakota, which encompasses its supervision, coordination, management, and regulation. Board of Regents Policy 1:0, 1:1 and SDCL § 13-49 through § 13-53 provides the authority to govern academic programming.
2. **Institution:** Defined as one of the six (6) universities: Black Hills State University, Dakota State University, Northern State University, South Dakota School of Mines and Technology, South Dakota State University, and University of South Dakota.
3. **Statutory Mission:** The institutional mission defined under South Dakota Codified Law (SDCL).
4. **Carnegie Classification:** A classification given to a university or college. The Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education provides a framework for recognizing and describing institutional diversity in the United States.
5. **Special Focus University:** DSU has a Carnegie Classification of special focus. This classification includes institutions offer a high concentration of degrees in a single field or related fields. DSU is designated as a special focus in the computer science fields.



6. **Computing and Information Technologies (CIT):** This is defined to include any computers, storage, networking and other physical or virtual devices, infrastructure, architecture, processes, and policies to create, store, secure, access, use, analyze, exchange, manage and govern all forms of electronic data and their enabling technologies,
7. **Cyber Security:** Defined as a focus within CIT and Cyber that deals with strategic threat assessment, protecting and securing the CIT/Cyber Technologies and data from criminal or unauthorized access. The security approaches range from offensive (Cyber Operations) to defensive (Cyber Defense and Network Security).

### **C. DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE**

1. **Main Campus (Madison):** The Dakota State University's (DSU) main campus located in Madison serves residential students in undergraduate, professional, and graduate programs. The campus includes the colleges of Arts and Sciences, Business and Information Systems, Education, and The Beacom College of Computer and Cyber Sciences.
2. **National Presence:** Dakota State University offers specialized degrees to students from across the United States and beyond. DSU shall be the computing and information technologies and cyber security leader for the state of South Dakota, and a recognized leader across the United States.

### **D. ACADEMIC CURRICULUM AND CREDENTIALS**

DSU is statutorily authorized under SDCL § 13-59-2.2 to offer academic programs computer management, computer information technologies, cyber security, education with an emphasis in computer and technology systems, and other related undergraduate and graduate programs. Students who attend Dakota State University pursue highly technical degrees with a broad focus in current and emerging computing and information technologies/cyber security that emphasize innovation, leadership, application, and research. DSU has the authority to credential certificates, associate degrees, baccalaureate degrees, master's degrees and doctoral degrees provided formal approval by the Board of Regents. The Board of Regents may authorize academic programs outside of the statutory mission as identified by the Regents due to workforce needs, strategic needs of the state, etc. All program requests must comply with BOR Policy 2:23 and 2:23.1.

### **E. RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Special research focus universities in South Dakota perform a wide range of research initiatives. While Dakota State University has an emphasis in the areas of Computer Sciences, DSU's educational and research activities address all aspects of current, emerging, and future Computer and Information Technologies/Cyber Security. Dakota State University's research provides the maximum opportunity to students seeking to study with top researchers and pursue careers related to the technological fields. This is most important for those students pursuing graduate education. DSU conducts (3) three types of research increasing student growth which results in discovery, creativity, or innovation:

faculty-driven discipline-specific research; collaborative, problem-driven applied research in all CIT/Cyber Security areas through the Madison Cyber Labs (MadLabs®)

Regionally located in eastern South Dakota provides a unique hub where Dakota State University and South Dakota State University (also regionally located in eastern South Dakota) complement each other in Agricultural Technological fields. Collaborative partnerships continue to evolve between the special focus universities and the research universities. This research pierces the boundaries in generating new innovative ideas. In addition to providing graduate student experience, research is a critical driver of both innovation and economic development.

Working together with business and industry in Madison, Sioux Falls, and all of South Dakota, Dakota State University will foster continued research in South Dakota, economic development in South Dakota, and innovation throughout the United States. Specifically related, Dakota State University offers highly specialized research in support of national security and defense through DSU's Applied Research Lab (ARL). The research activities of the MadLabs® and ARL drive innovation, workforce development, and economic development for South Dakota.

## **FORMS / APPENDICES:**

None

## **SOURCE:**

BOR March 1991; January 1994; BOR May 1996; BOR October 1999; BOR August 2000; BOR December 2003; BOR August 2006; BOR August 2007; BOR October 2019; BOR October 2022.



# SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS

## Policy Manual



**SUBJECT:** Northern State University Mission Statement

**NUMBER:** 1:10:6

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### **A. PURPOSE**

The South Dakota Board of Regents regards the regional universities of South Dakota as valuable contributors to the state's system of higher education. The regional universities serve the educational and programming needs of their geographic region and offer several undergraduate and limited master's-level programs. Faculty emphasis is on teaching, scholarly research and creative activity, and service.

Universities operating within this sector are nationally recognized to promote access to affordable education in a regional location. Northern State University (NSU) focuses on personalized teaching and student services and expands access through its special emphasis on E-Learning. NSU has unique characteristics and is critical in advancing student access, affordability, degree completion, and quality education in South Dakota.

The principles outlined in this policy serve as overarching directions for comprehensive universities reflecting efficient and effective roles in educational programming, professional development, community partnerships, and community engagement.

### **B. DEFINITIONS**

1. **Board of Regents:** Defined as the constitutional body responsible for governing the Unified System of Public Higher Education in South Dakota, which encompasses its supervision, coordination, management, and regulation. Board of Regents Policy 1:0, 1:1 and SDCL § 13-49 through § 13-53 provides the authority to govern academic programming.
2. **Institution:** Defined as one of the six (6) universities: Black Hills State University, Dakota State University, Northern State University, South Dakota School of Mines and Technology, South Dakota State University, and University of South Dakota.
3. **Statutory Mission:** The institutional mission defined under South Dakota Codified Law (SDCL).
4. **Carnegie Classification:** A classification given to a university or college. The Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education provides a framework for recognizing and describing institutional diversity in the United States.
5. **Master's Colleges and University:** NSU has a Carnegie Classification of master's colleges and universities-smaller programs. This classification includes institutions that awarded at least 50 master's degrees.

### **C. NORTHERN STATE UNIVERSITY ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE**

1. **Main Campus (Aberdeen):** Northern State University's (NSU) main campus located in Aberdeen primarily serves traditional and non-traditional students in the undergraduate and master's programs. This comprehensive regional university offers a unique personalized campus culture with a larger population of part-time students in the undergraduate and master's programs. A sizeable percentage of students are either first-generation, low-income students, or students balancing their education with work and family. The delivery of programs is consistent with both its modern residential setting and expanded emphasis on E-Learning. Academic units include the College of Arts and Sciences and Schools of Business, Education, and Fine Arts.
2. **Center for Statewide E-Learning (Distance Education):** The Center for Statewide E-Learning, approved by the 2001 legislature, delivers high school courses—including advanced placement courses—to high schools across the state. The center meets critical needs for courses in districts rural areas and those affected by teacher shortages.

### **D. ACADEMIC CURRICULUM AND CREDENTIALS**

NSU is statutorily authorized to offer university academic programs in accordance with SDCL § 13-59.1 in the preparation of elementary and secondary teachers, and a secondary purpose is to offer preprofessional, one-year and two-year terminal and junior college programs. NSU has the authority to credential certificates, associate degrees, baccalaureate degrees, and master's degrees provided formal approval by the Board of Regents. The Board of Regents may authorize academic programs outside of the statutory mission as identified by the Regents due to workforce needs, strategic needs of the state, etc. All program requests must comply with BOR Policy 2:23 and 2:23.1.

The Center for Statewide E-Learning is authorized to provide high school level curriculum for high school eligible students. High School registrations are accepted according to the South Dakota Department of Education's priority ratings based on districts', sparsity, and size.

### **E. PARTNERSHIPS COMPREHENSIVE REGIONAL UNIVERSITY**

Northern State University has several special partnerships with other entities resulting in established Centers or focused outreach efforts, including:

1. **Council of Public Liberal Arts Colleges:** Through membership in the exclusive Council of Public Liberal Arts Colleges (COPLAC), Northern State University strengthens resources for faculty to provide deep learning and connections across disciplines to prepare students with 21<sup>st</sup> century critical thinking, problem solving and communication skills that are in high demand across all professions.
2. **Huron Community Campus:** Dating back to 2010, Northern State University is the only university approved to offer programs and courses at Huron Community Campus. Through a series of MOUs, Northern offers a master's in Teaching and Learning to cohorts of area teachers and a rotation of general education courses that build into associate and bachelor's

degrees. Huron-area students can earn an associate in general studies face-to-face from Northern State University at Huron Community Campus.

3. **South Dakota School for the Blind and Visually Impaired (SDSBVI):** The SDSBVI is adjacent to Northern's campus and the university and school partner to provide real-world learning experiences for NSU students to teach visually impaired students. SDSBVI provides valuable input and resources for NSU's special education program and especially its graduate programming.
4. **Northern Innovation and Startup Center:** The center will infuse technology startup expertise into existing entrepreneurship resources, build a culture of tech entrepreneurship and create cohesive pathways, and offer ideation and incubator programming. In 2021, Land O'Lakes, Inc. and the Center on Rural Innovation announced that Aberdeen would be among its first round of select American Connection Communities. Working with multiple national, regional and local entities, the initiative aims to unlock the potential of broadband access in rural communities, and to bring economic prosperity and high-skilled jobs to reinvigorate rural communities.

#### **F. ROLE WITH SOUTH DAKOTA COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES**

1. **Synergy with Community and Technical Colleges:** The success of regional universities will depend on collaborative work with the regional community and technical colleges. As a regional comprehensive, partnering with the technical colleges is foundational to the mission. Partnerships should include programming, admissions, and advising.
2. **Synergy with Regental Universities:** As a regional comprehensive, partnering with Regental institutions is essential; therefore, NSU will build strong program partnerships with the other five public universities. Program to Program agreements, collaboration with faculty and programming should be central to the mission of the regional comprehensive university.

#### **FORMS / APPENDICES:**

None

#### **SOURCE:**

BOR March 1991; BOR May 1994; BOR May 1996; BOR March 2001; BOR December 2003; BOR October 2019; BOR October 2022.