

**SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS**

**AGENDA ITEM: 3 – C**  
**DATE: October 2-3, 2024**

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**SUBJECT**

**SDSU Student Organization Awards**

**CONTROLLING STATUTE, RULE, OR POLICY**

None

**BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION**

At the April 2024 Board of Regents meeting, the Board approves recommendations offered by each institution for the 2023 student organization award winners. The winners of these awards are announced at Board meetings throughout 2024. South Dakota State University (SDSU) Student Organization Awards would be presented at the October 2024 BOR meeting in Brookings.

2023 SDSU Award for Academic Excellence: Chemistry Club

The Chemistry Club has contributed to the academic environment at South Dakota State University by putting on experiment nights to help students better understand chemistry, and how things work. These experiment nights help students see the real-world application of topics they learn about in their chemistry classes. In addition to experiment nights, the Chemistry Club helps students with their chemistry classes by explaining concepts and working through problems. The club also helps students with applications for the department’s summer research funding for their senior capstone projects.

2023 SDSU Award for Community Service: University Program Council

The University Program Council (UPC) of South Dakota State University has again made community service and the inclusion of nonprofit organizations in the Brookings area an important theme of this past year by working with nonprofit organizations and other local businesses in the community. Many of their events looked to off campus entities for collaboration and potential co-sponsorship of events throughout the year. They are continuously planning and incorporating nonprofits and other organizations on campus and within the Brookings community to engage students and encourage them to involve themselves within the community.

2023 SDSU Award for Organizational Leadership: Student Nurses Association

Student Nurses Association (SNA) serves as a dedicated outlet and support network for aspiring nurses. They provide organization, representation, and mentorship to all nursing

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**INFORMATIONAL ITEM**

students. They go beyond academics, fostering the development of skills and values that make responsible and accountable future nurses. Their commitment extends to advocating for high-quality healthcare, ensuring that future nurses are equipped to deliver exceptional patient care and contribute to the well-being of their communities. The SNA group strives for greatness by putting forth extra time and dedication to focus on becoming the best nurses they can be. Student Nurses Association helps instill foundational leadership qualities throughout the membership experience.

### **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