

**SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS**

**AGENDA ITEM: 4 – B**  
**DATE: May 13-15, 2024**

\*\*\*\*\*

**SUBJECT**

**Resolution of Recognition**

**CONTROLLING STATUTE, RULE, OR POLICY**

None

**BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION**

Jim Rankin served the people of the state of South Dakota for six dedicated years and leaves a legacy of achievement and impact at South Dakota School of Mines and Technology, solidifying its position as a premier engineering institution nationwide.

**IMPACT AND RECOMMENDATION**

The South Dakota Board of Regents wishes to recognize South Dakota School of Mines and Technology President Jim Rankin for his outstanding service to the higher education system in South Dakota.

**ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment I – Resolution of Recognition – Jim Rankin

\*\*\*\*\*

**DRAFT MOTION 20240513\_4-B:**

I move to recognize South Dakota School of Mines and Technology President Jim Rankin for his service to South Dakota’s system of public higher education.

## SPECIAL RESOLUTION

**WHEREAS**, Jim Rankin served the people of the state of South Dakota for six dedicated years and leaves a legacy of achievement and impact at South Dakota Mines, solidifying its position as a premier engineering institution nationwide, before his retirement from the South Dakota Board of Regents; and

**WHEREAS**, President Rankin's career spanned from Iowa State University, the University of Arkansas, Ohio University, St. Cloud State University, and as an engineer at Rockwell-Collins, before returning to his alma mater as the nineteenth president of South Dakota Mines; and

**WHEREAS**, during his time at the university, Rankin spearheaded initiatives that have not only increased student retention and graduation rates, but also enhanced the overall student experience, expanded research opportunities, and led with an eye on the future through planning and philanthropy; and

**WHEREAS**, President Rankin acquired funding to construct the state-of-the-art Nucor Mineral Industries Building, completed the renovation of the Devereaux Library, purchased the former Ascent Innovation building, therefore expanding research space; and

**WHEREAS**, as president, Rankin played a pivotal role in securing transformative gifts that will create lasting impacts on the university, including the largest individual donation and the largest corporate gift to the university, thereby fortifying South Dakota Mine's financial foundation; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that it is the desire of the Board of Regents to recognize South Dakota Mines President Jim Rankin for his service; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that President Rankin be thanked for his contributions and dedication to the betterment of students' higher education, and it is ordered that this Resolution be spread upon the minutes of this Board and that a copy thereof be forwarded to President Rankin.

Adopted this 15<sup>th</sup> day of May 2024.

**SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS**

---

Tim Rave, President

---

Jeffrey D. Partridge, Vice President

---

Douglas Morrison, Secretary

**Special Resolution Number 01-2024**