

Dear Graduate,

Congratulations on graduating and joining our Mines alumni community! I hope you're excited for the next phase of life, whether that's starting your career or a fellowship, beginning graduate school, or exploring your passions.

No matter where you are or what you're embarking on next, I hope you remember that *you will always be a Hardrocker*. The Center for Alumni Relations & Advancement is here to help keep you connected with the South Dakota Mines campus and your fellow alumni.

I hope you're familiar with Rocker Days (September 10-16, 2023) and the [five-year reunion](#) (2025), but there are so many more ways to stay connected as an alum.

- Join or start a local alumni chapter to connect with fellow Hardrockers near you. Email [alumni@sdsmt.edu](mailto:alumni@sdsmt.edu) to inquire about chapters in your area.
- Read [The Hardrock](#) alumni magazine to stay up to date with exciting campus stories and learn about what other Hardrockers are doing around the world. You'll also receive the regular alumni E-News email.
- Follow us on [LinkedIn](#), [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#) for stories about alumni and events!
- Tune into our monthly [virtual department updates and lunch & learns](#).
- [Livestream Hardrocker games](#) (even host a watch party!) wherever you are.
- Use [Handshake](#), a service provided by Career Services, to find your next job or to promote openings within your organization.
- Volunteer to be a guest speaker in a Mines class, help with mock interviews, mentor current students or interns, or write an encouraging postcard to a first-year student.
- And, when you're ready - give back. For many, that happens later in life, but it doesn't always have to. Even a small amount makes a BIG difference to a student.

Whether you've graduated from South Dakota Mines, completed your master's degree, or finally defended your PhD, congratulations and welcome to our alumni community! You've joined a network of more than 18,000 people worldwide who graduated from this incredible university. Most people assume that once students leave campus, they may not have as big of a connection to the university; but I want your relationship with Mines to GROW from here.

Please contact me at the Center for Alumni Relations & Advancement ([CARA](#)) if you have ideas on how we can keep you connected or make the alumni experience even better!

*Shelli Grinager*

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**SOUTH DAKOTA MINES**  
Center for Alumni  
Relations & Advancement

