172nd Commencement

Over 100 students received their associate's, bachelor's, master's or doctoral degrees at SD Mines' 172nd commencement ceremony. Mechanical engineering major Zachary Kroehler of Henderson, Minn., delivered the senior class message. Kroehler will join Caterpillar in Peoria, Ill., to work in engine development.

Five Distinguished Alumni Awards were presented to Karla Callahan, B.S. in chemistry, 1976; Daniel Carlson, B.S. in chemical engineering, 1977; Michael Ellwein, B.S. in chemical engineering, 1961; Barry Granger, B.S. in chemical engineering, 1981; and Jeffrey Hohle, B.S. in geological engineering, 1978.

Schlumberger Donates Oil and Gas Software Gift Valued at $172 Million

Industry-leading oilfield services company Schlumberger has given software valued at $172 million to the South Dakota School of Mines & Technology to strengthen its Energy Resources Initiative.

The software gift will be used in courses to support the new petroleum systems minor and graduate certificate program, as well as research and existing petroleum-related curricula. Courses include the petroleum field camp, petroleum production and drilling engineering and petroleum geology.

The donation by Schlumberger, a longtime supporter of SD Mines, includes three-year leases of Petrel* E&P software platform and other software platforms that can be used to interpret seismic data, correlate well logs and build reservoir models and maps, as well as software to analyze wells for surveillance and forecast modeling and to simulate flow for oil and gas production. In all, 12 software technologies are included in the package.

“Close partnerships with industry are a very important part of Mines’ success. We very much appreciate this software gift from Schlumberger, and we look forward to using it to the fullest,” said Heather Wilson, president of SD Mines.

In addition to being important tools for faculty research, hands-on use of commercial-grade software enhances graduating students' job prospects. In the past couple of years 20 percent of Mines’ graduates have gone on to work in the energy industry.

Schlumberger currently employs over 30 Mines graduates, including four who have been hired in the past five years. In 2012, the company gave a similar software donation valued at $49 million.

Since announcing the Energy Resources Initiative two years ago, SD Mines has added a petroleum systems minor and a petroleum systems graduate certificate for working professionals. The energy initiative was announced two years ago to leverage the university’s expertise and research in rock properties, water resources and materials development, as well as its location in an energy-rich region of the country, within 300 miles of the Williston, Denver and Powder River basins. The search for a permanent director is ongoing.

*Mark of Schlumberger

SD Mines Featured as Top SD College by Business Insider

The South Dakota School of Mines & Technology has been featured as the top college in the state of South Dakota by Business Insider.

In a Business Insider story on the “Best College in Every State,” research company Niche considered “academic strength, campus quality, caliber of professors and quality of student reviews for more than 1,500 schools across the country.”

Quotes from SD Mines students highlighted the university’s connected feel, internship opportunities and faculty dedicated to helping students succeed.

“While we are most known for our unmatched value, Mines offers challenging academics, personal attention and great internships that lead to meaningful lives,” said Heather Wilson, SD Mines president. “I’m glad to see Mines recognized in this way as an exceptional university.”
American Indian Students Recognized for Community Outreach

The South Dakota School of Mines & Technology American Indian Science & Engineering Society (AISES) student chapter received the Outreach and Community Service Award and Advisor of the Year Award for Region V at the AISES National Conference held in Phoenix, Ariz. Abena Songbird, program assistant II in the Office of Multicultural Affairs, is co-advisor of the AISES club and recipient of the Advisor of the Year Award.

SD Mines students were also featured in a video, shown to the entire conference of around 1,800 attendees, including many from industry.

SD Mines is part of Region V, which won five of the eight awards given at the conference and includes Canada (Manitoba and Ontario), Iowa, Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wisconsin.

Jesse Herrera, director of the Office of Multicultural Affairs, is the other AISES co-advisor.

Black Hills Power Donates for Placer Hall Construction

Black Hills Power recently donated $20,000 for capital improvements at Placer Hall, the new residence hall under construction at East Saint Joseph and Maple Streets.

The 200-bed six-story residence hall is expected to open for the fall 2016 semester. The building will offer 51 suite-style units, each with a living room, private bathrooms and bedrooms. Community lounges, kitchens and group study spaces will also be provided throughout the building.

Enrollment at SD Mines has increased 35 percent over the last six years, leading to a current demand for expanded housing options. Currently, three traditional residence halls on campus and two new university-leased apartment buildings adjacent to campus provide 865 beds for students.

From left to right: Mutch Usera, BH Power senior program manager, community affairs; Vance Crocker, BH Power vice president of operations; Anne Ekern, SD Mines Foundation, Heather Wilson, SD Mines president; Cliff Bienert SD Mines alumnus and interim construction management and engineering program coordinator; Joel Kincart, SD Mines Foundation president

Intern Spotlight

Danielle Taylor
Chemical Engineering Junior

Chemical engineering junior Danielle Taylor spent her fall co-op with Cargill in Eddyville, Iowa. Taylor’s main project was checking air quality in the corn unload tunnels at all of Cargill’s Corn Milling North America sites. This photo was taken while replacing a burner on site.
SD Mines Presents 22nd Annual Nostalgia Night Film Series ‘Snubbed’

SD Mines, Friends of the Devereaux Library and the Elks Theatre will host the 22nd annual Nostalgia Night Film Series “Snubbed” at 6:30 p.m. Sunday evenings Jan. 10 to March 13 at the historic Elks Theatre. This annual event entertains hundreds of people, and all proceeds benefit the Devereaux Library at SD Mines.

Jan. 10: The Seven Year Itch
A faithful husband, whose family is away for the summer, is tempted by a gorgeous neighbor.

Jan. 17: After the Thin Man
Nick and Nora investigate a murder that’s connected to Nora’s family.

Jan. 24: Bye Bye Birdie
After being drafted, a rock star goes to a small Midwestern town to make his farewell TV appearance and meet his biggest fan.

Jan. 31: The Sons of Katie Elder
The four sons of a ranch owner swear to avenge the murder of their father.

Feb. 7: Ball of Fire
A professor studying slang meets a beautiful singer in trouble with the Mob.

Feb. 14: Yours, Mine, and Ours
A widow with eight children marries a widower with 10 in this memorable family comedy.

Feb. 21: The Picture of Dorian Gray
A young man retains his physical beauty while his portrait changes for the worse; from the classic novel by Oscar Wilde.

Feb. 28: Bronco Billy
A cowboy and promoter tries to keep his Wild West show going amid troubles and changing times.

March 6: Touch of Evil
A film noire crime thriller of murder, kidnapping and corruption in a Mexican border town.

March 13: Father Goose
A man serving as a lookout for the Allies in WWII finds himself unexpectedly responsible for a teacher and her female students.

Season tickets are $40 and available at the Devereaux Library and the Elks Theatre, 512 6th St., and online at http://friends.sdsmt.edu.

New Exhibit Explores South Dakota Landscapes

The South Dakota School of Mines & Technology will open its newest exhibit, “Surface: Texture and Illusion,” by J. Desy Schoenewies and Erica Merchant on Monday, Jan. 11, at the Apex Gallery on campus. There will be an artist reception from 5-7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 22, with an artist talk at 6 p.m. in the gallery. The exhibit will run through Friday, Feb. 19.

Schoenewies and Merchant are both faculty at Black Hills State University.

Monthly @ Mines

The new “Monthly @ Mines” newsletter is designed to help connect SD Mines with K-12 educators and other community members by highlighting upcoming events and outreach activities.

To subscribe or learn more visit www.sdsmt.edu/Monthly@Mines/.
172nd Commencement
Seven scholar-athletes from the Hardrocker football program were named to the 2015 Great Northwest Athletic Conference (GNAC) All-Academic Team.

To earn GNAC All-Academic Team honors, scholar athletes must have a minimum 3.3 cumulative GPA on a 4.0 scale, must be in their second year at their current institution (freshmen, redshirt freshmen and transfers are not eligible) and must be a letterwinner during the current season.

“It is a tremendous honor for our student-athletes to be recognized by the RMAC for their academic achievements,” said Hardrocker cross country head coach Steve Johnson.

To qualify, student-athletes must have a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.30 or better, be a starter or reserve, and have completed two consecutive semesters or three quarters at their current institution. The student-athlete’s cumulative GPA is what she or he had earned prior to the beginning of the cross country season. All RMAC Sports Information Directors selected the first team.

SD Mines Earns RMAC Academic Honors

SD Mines earned top honors during the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference’s recent announcement of the Cross Country Academic All-Conference Teams and Honor Roll. The university earned three First-Team honors, and three Hardrockers were named to the Honor Roll.

“It is a tremendous honor for our student-athletes to be recognized by the RMAC for their academic achievements,” said Hardrocker cross country head coach Steve Johnson.

To qualify, student-athletes must have a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.30 or better, be a starter or reserve, and have completed two consecutive semesters or three quarters at their current institution. The student-athlete’s cumulative GPA is what she or he had earned prior to the beginning of the cross country season. All RMAC Sports Information Directors selected the first team.

Hardrockers Named to GNAC All-Academic Team

Seven scholar-athletes from the Hardrocker football program were named to the 2015 Great Northwest Athletic Conference (GNAC) All-Academic Team.

To earn GNAC All-Academic Team honors, scholar athletes must have a minimum 3.3 cumulative GPA on a 4.0 scale, must be in their second year at their current institution (freshmen, redshirt freshmen and transfers are not eligible) and must be a letterwinner during the current season.

“To be a scholar athlete is a remarkable feat,” said Hardrocker Head Coach Stacy Collins. “Especially at South Dakota Mines. It’s quite a challenge to be both a college football athlete and scholar but we continue to get fantastic young men who consistently excel at both.” Hardrocker football players who earned GNAC All-Academic honors are:

RMCA First-Team Honors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>GPA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pat Berke*</td>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>(3.49 GPA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brandon Carda</td>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>(3.36 GPA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christian Chavez*</td>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>(3.79 GPA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travis Buse</td>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>(4.0 GPA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Libby Friesen</td>
<td>Sophomore</td>
<td>(4.0 GPA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dale Broek</td>
<td>Sophomore</td>
<td>(3.6 GPA)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RMAC Academic Honor Roll

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>GPA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sam Cowan</td>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>(3.92 GPA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kyle Hudson*</td>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>(3.37 GPA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Davis Mathieu</td>
<td>Sophomore</td>
<td>(3.5 GPA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brittanee Wood</td>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>(3.7 GPA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Therese Frels</td>
<td>Junior</td>
<td>(3.8 GPA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Jakpor</td>
<td>Junior</td>
<td>(3.36 GPA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blake Stone</td>
<td>Sophomore</td>
<td>(3.63 GPA)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Outreach Events Take Mines on the Road

Prospective students, families, alumni and friends of the university are invited to meet President Wilson and other Mines representatives during outreach visits throughout South Dakota and beyond.

Admissions, career placement and Foundation representatives will join together in a series of multi-layered events, many of which will be hosted at industry partners. Email President@sdsmt.edu for details or to RSVP.

- Wednesday, Jan. 6, 5:30 p.m. Brookings, SD-Daktronics
- Thursday, Jan. 7, 5:30 p.m. Sioux Falls, SD-Raven Industries
- Friday, Jan. 8, 4:30 p.m. Rapid City, SD-Rushmore Plaza Civic Center
- Wednesday, Jan. 13, 7 p.m. Houston, TX-Hilton Garden Inn Galleria
- Thursday, Feb. 4, 5:30 p.m. Pierre, SD-George S. Mickelson Criminal Justice Building

About Legacy News

Legacy News is produced by the Office of University Relations the first Wednesday of each month. The newsletter is a compilation of news releases, photos and Web articles. To submit news or story ideas or to subscribe to the email distribution list, please contact Dani Mason, public relations officer, at 605.394.2554 or at Danielle.Mason@sdsmt.edu. For more Mines news, visit news.sdsmt.edu.

*Two-time GNAC All-Academic honorees.