

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

At BHSU, and across the nation and world, changes are occurring in response to the COVID-19 virus. Following the Governor's emergency designation for the state on March 13, we extended spring break for a week and faculty are preparing to teach online for however long that's required. Events on campus are being postponed for now (check www.BHSU.edu/calendar for the latest updates). While we would much prefer to be welcoming students back, we are committed to the health and safety of our students, faculty and staff. We are all in this together and will do what's best to minimize the risk for others in our community.

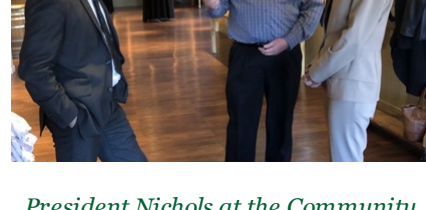


Last month we assisted our students in launching into their next internship or job opportunity. We hosted 90 employers on campus during our Career and Teacher Fairs. Students networked during the Fairs. They were also interviewed and landed jobs that very day. BHSU recently held listening sessions with area employers. Along with the Spearfish Economic Development Corporation, we asked questions of employers and were able to determine their future employment needs. We were glad to hear many success stories of short-term internships turning into long-term employment opportunities for BHSU students. Read more about the career services we can provide to you in my recent editorial in the [Rapid City Journal](#).

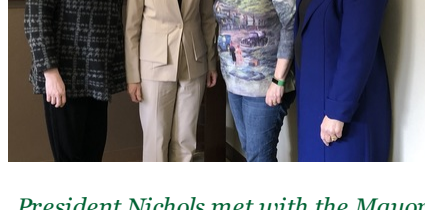
We are blessed to live in a community that cares and supports one another. Thank you for all you do.

Laurie S. Nichols

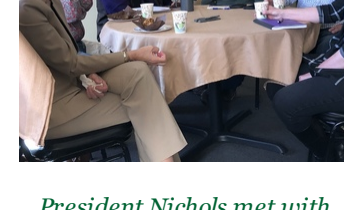
President, Laurie S. Nichols



President Nichols at the Community Days gathering in Hot Springs



President Nichols met with the Mayor and Chamber Director during the community gathering in Hill City



President Nichols met with the Chamber of Commerce during the Community Days gathering in Custer

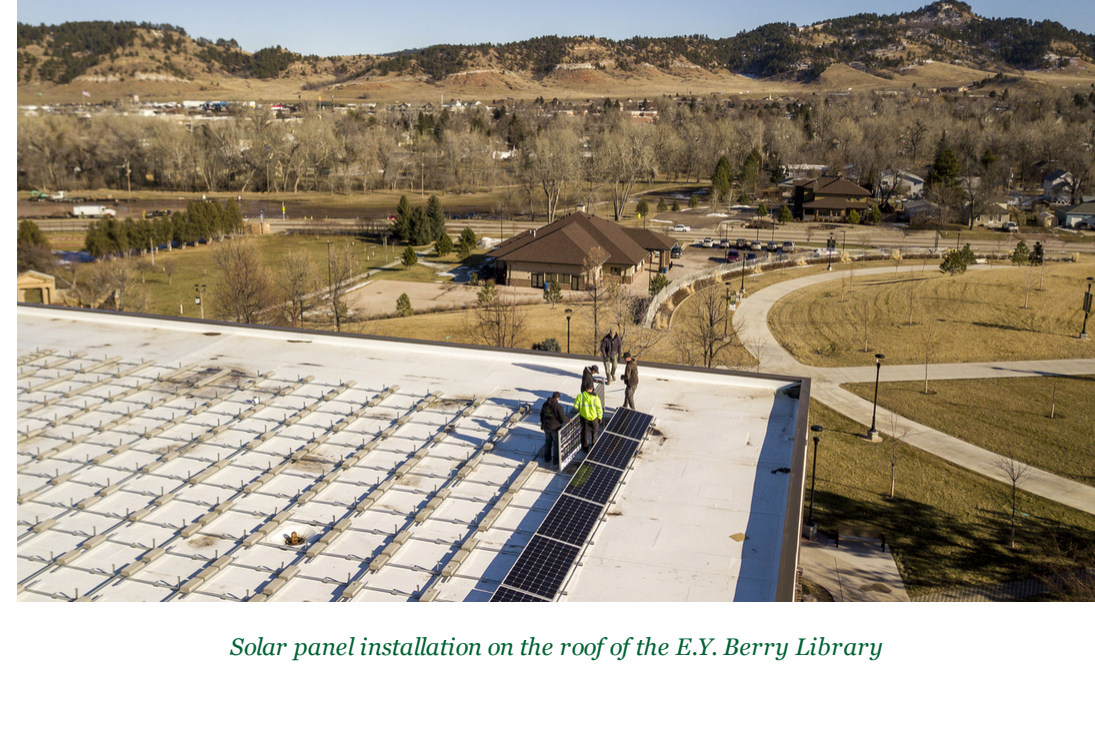
BHSU CONTINUES COMMUNITY DAY GATHERINGS IN SOUTHERN BLACK HILLS

President Nichols and a small group of BHSU leaders visited the communities of Hill City, Hot Springs, and Custer earlier this month. During the BHSU Community Days, Nichols and the BHSU representatives visited local schools, government leaders, and held gatherings with alumni. The Community Days visits, which began last fall, are serving to strengthen the University's connection with its local and regional neighbors.

90 EMPLOYERS RECRUIT BHSU STUDENTS DURING CAREER AND TEACHER FAIRS



BHSU welcomed 90 businesses and school districts to campus last month for the annual Career and Teacher Fairs. The Career Day began with a Q&A with school administrators and 250 BHSU students met with employers during the Fairs. [Read more](#)



Solar panel installation on the roof of the E.Y. Berry Library

BHSU NEARING GOAL TO BE POWERED 100% BY RENEWABLE ENERGY

Black Hills State University is now generating one megawatt of power (for perspective: that is enough to power 1,000 homes) and saving over \$100,000 per year thanks to the recent installation of solar panels by GenPro Energy Solutions on two additional campus buildings.

The Kathryn Johnson Life Sciences Building and the E.Y. Berry Library-Learning Center solar installations were completed in February. GenPro, an international company based in Piedmont, is currently working to outfit solar panels on the Donald E. Young Sports & Fitness Center and the Facilities Services buildings at BHSU.

This brings the total count of BHSU campus buildings with solar arrays to six. [Read more](#)

SECRETARY OF LABOR AND REGULATION MARCIA HULTMAN REFLECTS ON CAREER AND BHSU EDUCATION DEGREE



Hultman

Marica Hultman is proud to be a fourth generation South Dakotan, born and raised on a family farm west of Belle Fourche that has been in her family over 100 years. She chose to follow the same path as two women she greatly respected, her mother and grandmother, in pursuing a degree in education at Black Hills State.

Now in her fifth year as Secretary of Department of Labor and Regulation, Hultman says she enjoys the challenge of staying current on workforce trends. She says she is also challenged by the technical aspects of banking and insurance regulations, which impact all South Dakotans' lives on a daily basis.

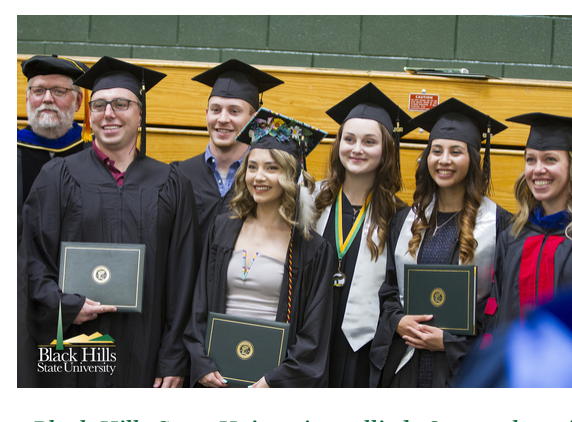
"DLR is very diverse – workforce programs, helping employers find workers and helping South Dakotans gain the skills they need to be successful," says Hultman. [Read more](#)



Pictured left to right: President Nichols, *Cheyanne Reger, **Jerry Rawlings, **Tennille Paden, *Jennifer Kilgore, *Petyin Fleming, *Therese Wilhelmi, *Sydney Koehn, **Skott Chandler, *Chris Mehlhaff, Dean of the College of Liberal Arts Dr. Amy Fuqua. *Students **Faculty

STUDENTS EARN ADDY AWARDS

President Nichols joined faculty in congratulating BHSU students for winning Addy awards in at the Dahl Fine Arts Center in Rapid City in February. The Addys are the largest and most prestigious awards given out by the advertising industry in the U.S. BHSU students won awards for outstanding graphic design, photography, and art.



Black Hills State University rallied 18,000 alumni and supporters around the first-ever Giving Day in school history, Thursday, Feb. 27, marking the 137th anniversary of the university's founding.

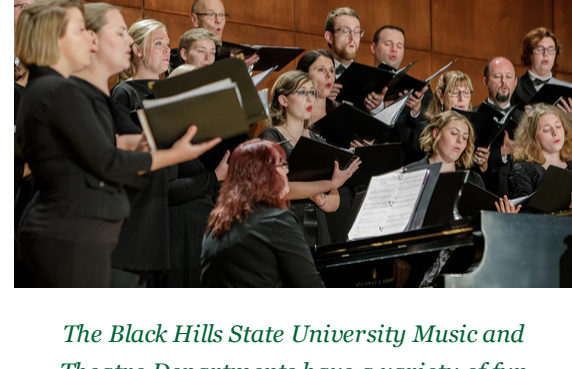
INAUGURAL GIVING DAY RAISES \$65K FOR SCHOLARSHIPS

BHSU celebrated the 137th anniversary of the University's founding on Feb. 27 with the first-ever Giving Day in school history. A goal was set to raise \$50,000 for student scholarships. Nearly 400 donors contributed more than \$65,000 to the effort.

"Over the past four decades BHSU hosted an annual phone-a-thon to raise funds to help students towards their goal of a college degree. This year we replaced the phone-a-thon with Giving Day and encouraged Yellow Jacket supporters to donate via text or online at BHSUFoundation.org," said Steve Meeker, vice president for University Advancement.

"Gifts of all amounts, no matter the size, have a big impact on our students' success," said Meeker. "Thank you for joining us in celebrating the longstanding impact and history of BHSU while raising funds to help the next generation of Yellow Jackets earn their college degrees."

BHSU MUSIC AND THEATRE PLAN FOR A SERIES OF GREAT PERFORMANCES THIS SEMESTER



The Black Hills State University Music and Theatre Departments have a variety of fun performances set for the spring semester.

The spring semester at BHSU includes performances by BHSU Theatre and each BHSU music ensemble: the BHSU Community Choir, Dakota Chamber Orchestra, Chamber Singers, Concert Band and Jazz Band. The ensembles perform throughout the year providing students with professional opportunities to show off their skills.

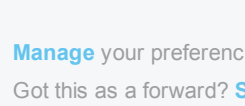
The Music Department will host a BH Bands Cabaret Dinner and Concert fundraising event at the end of April. Assistant professor of music Dr. David Berberick says, "We will have over 10 different groups lined up to perform over two nights offering a variety of musical acts." The funds raised will be put toward scholarships for students. View the [Campus Calendar](#) for upcoming events.

SPRING ISSUE OF THE BHSU ALUMNI MAGAZINE IS AVAILABLE ONLINE

The latest issue of the BHSU Alumni Magazine is currently being delivered to 18,000 alumni worldwide. You can access a [digital copy](#) of the magazine online. Flip through the Alumni Magazine for the latest BHSU news, sports highlights, and a recap of Spring Day 2019!

www.BHSU.edu

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