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For Immediate Release: Friday, Sept. 25, 2009
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Summer Work Experience Leads to Job for USD Communications Student

PIERRE, S.D. – The South Dakota Department of Labor provided 22-year-old Jamie Bulian (BUHL'-ee-an) a 19-week work experience with the non-profit Ribs, Rods and Rock'n Roll event, which led to a full-time position with an advertising agency in Sioux Falls.

Bulian was one of nearly 800 young people, ages 14-24, who benefited from \$2.9 million in federal stimulus funds South Dakota received for job-training opportunities through the Summer Youth Work Experience program. The program helped them establish work histories, gain references, acquire new skills and build good work habits.

Bulian is attending the University of South Dakota, pursuing a Bachelor of Arts degree in communication studies and a minor in mass communications. In her work experience, she was a special events coordinator for Ribs, Rods and Rock'n Roll.

"This experience has showed me what it's like to be in the work world everyday," said Bulian. "It has made me more professional as a person."

Bulian was responsible for chairing student advisory committee meetings, preparing and delivering presentations to the Vermillion City Council and other community groups, assisting in event promotions, organizing events such as a car show and street dance, and assisting with a marketing plan.

"Jamie is quick to act and completes projects without wasting any time," said Bulian's supervisor Jody Harnois. "She is a self-starting, independent person."

Bulian became permanently employed with Lawrence and Schiller on Aug. 3.