



Dr. Carolyn Hovde Bohach

In her more than 20 years as a faculty member at the University of Idaho, Dr. Bohach has brought distinction to the University through her creative scholarship and research, teaching, and public service. She is an internationally acclaimed scholar in microbiology; her research findings have informed and shifted the field of Gram negative bacteriology and her current investigations are published in the leading scientific journals. Understanding the basic relationship between ruminants and *E. coli* O157:H7 has been the central theme of her research program. Dr. Bohach's laboratory group has made significant and unexpected contributions to this field in diverse areas including host-pathogen interactions, environmental microbiology, molecular mechanisms, genetic regulation, and toxin molecular structure-function. Her enthusiasm for her field and for life makes the research and problems to be solved stimulating and rewarding and above all worthwhile as is reflected in her international reputation. Dr. Bohach has been recognized for her excellence in teaching through University and national teaching awards which include the American Society of Microbiologists Carski Foundation Distinguished Undergraduate Teaching Award. Professor Bohach has served the University, the State of Idaho, and the national and international scientific communities by her leadership and service at the American Society of Microbiologists, National Institutes of Health, and the United States Department of Agriculture, service that is exemplified today by her role as the Director of the Idaho IDeA Network of Biomedical Research Excellence (INBRE) Program. She has touched the lives of 25,274 K-12 students, 790 Undergraduate students, 158 graduate students, 10 postdoctoral staff, and 307 faculty members through her outreach seminars and programs. Through this work, undergraduates enrolled at any institution of higher education across the state have the opportunity to participate in addressing biomedical research problems with faculty who are supported by INBRE. Their appetites are whetted and a large number of them continue to pursue higher degrees in biomedical fields either in Idaho or at other institutions. These examples provide an overview of the reasons the committee found Dr. Bohach to exemplify the criteria for the Distinguished Professor Rank.



Dr. Holly Wichman

Dr. Holly Wichman has been a leader in interdisciplinary research since her arrival at the University of Idaho in 1988. With James Foster, she started the Initiative for Bioinformatics and Evolutionary Studies (IBEST), an interdisciplinary group of mathematicians, computer scientists, physicists, chemists, and biologists that has catalyzed extensive collaborative research, teaching, and significant extramural research funding from NIH and NSF. This grant, in turn, led to the formulation of a strategic area in 'real time evolution' and the founding of the Institute for Bioinformatics and Evolutionary Studies. At each step, Dr. Wichman provided visionary leadership, intellect, and energy to these programs. Most recently, Dr. Wichman assembled and led an interdisciplinary team of investigators who have applied for funding from the National Institute of Health to establish a new Center for Biomedical Research Excellence that would receive \$10 million over a five-year period, a proposal that will likely be competitive given her signature mentoring ability, superior talent, and previous success in writing interdisciplinary research grant proposals. Dr. Wichman has the longest continuously funded NIH-RO1 project in Idaho, and she is among the best funded NIH investigators in Idaho. Her scholarly work is published in top journals. Dr. Wichman teaches undergraduate and graduate classes, engaging students in active learning in the classroom and in the laboratory. She mentors students as they develop into their professional roles. Student support letters attribute their success as faculty and researchers and the accolades they are receiving for their teaching, scholarly work, and outreach to her leadership and mentoring. She is an active inspiration and mentor for young women scientists. Dr. Wichman makes time to serve the University community as she manages her large, time-consuming research program and her teaching activities. She served as co-chair of the Strategic Plan Steering Committee and has served as a member of the Research Council and the University of Idaho Benefits Advisory Committee, as well as others. A recent recognition of the excellence Dr. Wichman brings to any assignment she accepts is her invitation to join the Council for the National Institute for General Medical Sciences, a prestigious appointment to the organization that provides strategic advice to the Institute for General Medical Sciences for future directions and funding. Dr. Wichman's accomplishments and impact locally, nationally, and internationally are well known and highly respected. She demonstrates the excellence we seek in individuals named to the Distinguished Professor Rank.