College of Letters, Arts and Social Sciences

November 2015

Colleagues:

File this one in the folder: “It’s the Daily Victories That Often Count the Most.” Two weeks ago, we launched our College’s Facebook page. It’s here: https://www.facebook.com/uidahoclass?ref=hl. Please follow us! This is just one aspect of CLASS’s larger messaging plan. Over the last year and a half, we have been working to get our ideas and our stories out to the world. This has helped raise new friends, engage old ones, and develop awareness among prospective students. It’s also allowed us to recognize the excellent work of our faculty, staff, and students. And, there’s more to come! We still need your help. Please send your story ideas to Jennie Hall (jenniej@uidaho.edu).

- Andy

Notes from Associate Dean Traci Craig

Registration opens on November 9 and our spring courses will begin to fill. This is a busy time of year and the end of term is fast approaching. Consider turning in your textbook requests for spring soon if you have not already done so. For some students, the cost of textbooks can be prohibitive and having some time to plan for this expense and allow for shipping if they order their books online can be a great help. Another way we can help our students is turning in our final grades on time. Some scholarships and financial aid awards depend on students achieving a particular GPA. The sooner students know their academic standing the better able they are to plan for a successful spring term.

The CLASS Ambassador Program is taking applications for new Ambassadors. Help us build the ambassador program by reaching out to students who you think would be good ambassadors for CLASS and encourage them to apply! Interested students should email Lexi Schaar (aschaar@uidaho.edu) or Kristi Overfelt (kloverfelt@uidaho.edu) for more information about the application process and deadlines.

As you think about your scholarship, consider helping students get involved! There are $1,000 research awards available through the Undergraduate Research Awards program through the Office of Undergraduate Research. The deadline for Spring 2016 proposals is November 20, 2015. Questions can be directed to Dr. David Pfeiffer (our@uidaho.edu).

If you are interested in seeking external funding, but you want some help getting started, I am happy to meet to help you get started finding a funding opportunity. For internal funding, you might consider the University of Idaho Seed Grant program (http://www.uidaho.edu/research/fundingagencies/seedgrant) to support your work as you prepare for a larger submission or project. The deadline for the UI Seed Grant proposals is typically in early February; it is never too early to start thinking about a proposal! The website includes examples of past successful proposals, guidelines and details. Finally, the Vandal Ideas Project (VIP) might be something to consider if you have a team of colleagues interested in a larger project. Details about the VIP program are later in this newsletter!

--Traci (tcaraig@uidaho.edu)
**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Committee Service**

*University-level standing committees* play an important role in the University of Idaho’s shared governance. They work best when a strong, experienced and diverse group of faculty members are actively involved, both as committee members and as collaborators with those who volunteer and are ultimately chosen to serve on these committees.

Your committee service counts toward University Service and Leadership components of most faculty position descriptions and is reflected in annual performance reviews, as well as in consideration for tenure and promotion.

You can find the form to indicate your *committee service preferences online*, or see form below. Please return to annat@uidaho.edu by Friday, November 20, 2015. If you have any questions about the duties of these committees or the time commitment for each, please direct them to the Faculty Secretary’s Office at (208) 885-6151. Your timely response is greatly appreciated.

[Committee Service Preferences Form](#)

**Christmas for Kids**

You’re invited to celebrate the holidays in a very special way! Once again, we in CLASS look forward to sponsoring a “Christmas for Kids” family. Christmas for Kids is a local non-profit organization that provides gifts and warm clothing for children of families in need in Latah County – CLASS will be working together to collect children’s toys and clothing for them. *If you would be interested in brightening a family’s holiday in this way, please contact Alisa Goolsby and let her know.*

As soon as we know more about the family, Alisa will provide a link to the children’s detailed gift lists. The link will allow those interested in donating to select the item or items they wish to give. Please drop off all donations at the CLASS Dean’s office (AD 112) no later than December 8.

We also invite everyone to take part in wrapping the gifts. We’ll get together in the CLASS Dean’s office on the afternoon of December 9—this is great fun too!

You may also contact the organization directly as they are in need of volunteers to wrap at their fairgrounds location and make deliveries to families. If interested in volunteering with Christmas for Kids, please contact Jeanne at (509) 330-1046 or christmas@moscow.com.

**OPEN COMMENT SESSIONS FOR LONG-TERM CONTINGENT FACULTY**

The Faculty Senate has commissioned a task force to develop a list of issues concerning the employment of *long-term contingent faculty* and a recommendation of how to address these issues. The task force will be hosting three open sessions for the university community to provide input into these issues. Please plan to attend one of these meetings if you wish to provide input. All sessions will be held in Janssen Engineering Building (JEB) 111*. Dates and times are:
• 11/12, Thursday from 3pm to 4pm
• 11/18 Wednesday from 3:30pm to 4:30pm
• 11/19 Thursday from 4pm to 5pm

* Enter JEB at the entrance across from the new IRIC building construction site; JEB 111 is immediately to your right, across from the JEB auditorium.

Vandal Ideas Project

The Vandal Ideas Project (VIP) is a competitive university-wide grant program to stimulate bold new research, creativity and scholarship. The VIP especially encourages projects that address issues important to Idaho and the Northwest that may also have national and global relevance. Initial funding available for the program is $300,000 to fund six proposals. Proposals may be for amounts ranging from $20,000 - $80,000. Preference will be given for proposals that include participation from faculty across multiple, diverse disciplines and a clear plan for fostering and sustaining these collaborations well beyond the funding period. Faculty are encouraged to use Yellowdig (yellowdig.com) to connect with colleagues and to find projects on which they might collaborate. Tara Roberts (trobcrs@uidaho.edu) will be able to answer questions about Yellowdig and Sarah Koerber (skoerber@uidaho.edu) will field questions and concerns about grant preparation and grant process as well as ideas about sustainability and potential partnerships. Teams will be asked to write a letter of intent (short paragraph no more than 300 words) by February 1 (emailed to Sarah Koerber) and final proposals should be ready for submission by March 1. Additional details, forms, and a more thorough program introduction can be found on the VIP website: http://www.uidaho.edu/research/faculty/find-funding/vandal-ideas-project

Commencement Regalia for CLASS Faculty

The CLASS Dean’s office (AD 112) has regalia available for CLASS faculty to borrow for the December 12 Commencement. To reserve a cap and gown, please contact Jean Planagan (885-6426) as soon as possible, noting your height, as quantities and sizes are limited.

Nominations for University Excellence Awards Now Open

We are pleased to announce that nominations for University Excellence Awards are now open. Please follow the Excellence Awards link to learn about the awards and the nomination requirements and distribute within your colleges/units. This will be announced in the Register many times in the coming months but it helps to have the colleges/units spread the word. (More information on staff-specific awards is forthcoming.) Please contact Joana Espinoza if you should have questions on the awards process. It is hoped that many nominations are received this year!
UPCOMING EVENTS

Learn how being Brave and Bold is truly life changing!

Everyone is welcome to join us in the Commons Crest room at 12 noon on Wednesday, November 18th! Come hear how one woman’s interest in the body positive movement took off after a wildly successful social media campaign went viral and begin changing lives. Amy Pence-Brown is a UI alumna and social media sensation who touched thousands of lives with one bold act. Join the College of Letters, Arts, and Social Sciences in welcoming a Brave and Bold Vandal back to tell her story and learn how you can be a part of positive change!

UI & LCSC Collaborate on Original Play

Playwright Jef Petersen (2013 MFA Playwriting and Directing) is collaborating with Lewis Clark State College to present his original play, “An Elaborate System of Ropes and Pulleys.” The production is co-directed by Christina Holaday (UI Theatre Arts MFA candidate) with dramaturgy provided by Vinicia Coleman (UI Theatre Arts MFA candidate) and the lead female role played by Lauren Walters, (UI Theatre Arts BFA candidate). The play will be presented at the Silverthorne Theater in Lewiston on the LCSC campus:

November 4-7 and November 12-14
7:30 pm 2 p.m.

November 8 and November 15

Guest Artist Gabriel Ponti Puppet Performance – Special Benefit on November 14

Theatre Arts is pleased to welcome International puppeteer Gabriel Ponti to campus for three weeks this month. While here, Ponti will lead a master class in creativity, and will assist with the construction of puppets being created for “A Christmas Carol.”

On November 14, Ponti presents a special benefit show for Theatre Arts at 7:30 p.m. in the Hartung Theater.

Cost is free for UI students and $7.50 for general public. Tickets are available at BookPeople, at Shoup Hall in room 201, or by calling 208-885-6465.

“A Christmas Carol” Opens December 3

Celebrate the holidays with “A Christmas Carol” in the Hartung Theater from December 3-13. Adapted by Ann Hoste and directed by David Lee-Painter, this show promises to delight and astound with fantastic, larger-than-life puppets, wonderful music and a talented cast of live actors.

Tickets are available at BookPeople, at Shoup Hall in room 201 or by calling 208-885-6465.
Confucius Institute – Upcoming Events

Please learn more about upcoming events presented by the Confucius Institute. Coming this month:

**Chinese Lantern Festival**
Extended through November 15 – 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm
The University of Idaho Confucius Institute and the College of Letters, Arts and Social Sciences are major sponsors of the Washington State Chinese Lantern Festival, held at Spokane Riverfront Park.

**Chinese Movie Night** – “The Grandmaster”
November 11 – 7:00 pm
Kenworthy Performing Arts Centre

**Chinese Food Club**
November 13 – 5:30 pm
1912 Center

**IMPORTANT DATES**

November 9 Spring registration opens for seniors, graduate and Law students
November 10 Spring registration opens for juniors
November 11 Spring registration opens for sophomores
November 12 Spring registration opens for freshmen
November 13 Spring registration opens for non-degree students
November 23 – 27 Recess for students
November 26 – 27 UI Holiday – Campus closed

**NEWS FROM CLASS DEPARTMENTS AND SCHOOLS**

Lionel Hampton School of Music

**Associate Professor Barry Bilderback Presents at the International Conference on the Blues**

On October 5 and 6, Barry Bilderback attended the International Conference on the Blues (Cleveland Mississippi’s Delta State University). He presented a paper titled, "Oh Brother Where Art Thou: Crossroads and Junctions in United States 'Blue' Music Vernacular." His paper, part of an ongoing blues and bluegrass project with Dean Andrew Kersten, traced the blues crossroads legend back to its West African Esu (Trickster) origin. The evening prior to his departure, the University of Idaho World Beat Ensemble performed for Africa Night; thus setting up, for Barry, some of the spirit and energy he would encounter during the Mississippi Delta-based conference.
Barry Bilderback between eminent blues scholar and conference keynote speaker Dr. William (Bill) Ferris, and Grammy Award winner Dom (The American Songster) Flemons.

Barry Bilderback with the University of Idaho World Beat Ensemble performing for Africa Night 2015

Theatre Arts Department

Oregon Shakespeare Festival

Nearly 30 Theatre Arts students experienced two days of world-class professional theatre at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival in Ashland, Oregon, in October. Along with viewing four shows, the group received a special backstage tour and met up with a couple of Theatre Arts grads employed at OSF.

Thirty Theatre Arts Students Experience World-Class Professional Theatre
“Proof” Connects With Inner Math Nerds

The recent production of “Proof” attracted the attention of UI math professor Mark Nielsen who with his Honor’s Class attended the show and then had an exclusive Q & A with “Proof” director and head of dramatic writing, Rob Caisley. “Proof” featured a plot involving a math mystery. Nielsen had high praise for the cast in their realistic portrayal of math “nerds.”

Mark Nielsen’s Math Class with Rob Caisley

Matt Foss & Vandal Lab Stun Audiences in Mississippi

After two successful performances of "The Glass Menagerie" in September in Moscow, University of Idaho Assistant Professor of Theatre Matt Foss and MFA candidate Matthew Brumlow took the production on the road, opening the prestigious Mississippi Delta Tennessee Williams Festival in Clarksdale, MS, on October 2. Foss and Brumlow co-directed and appeared in the classic drama along with professional actors Nancy Lee-Painter and Cora Vander Broek.

The Glass Menagerie