Colleagues:

In the next few weeks, you will be hearing more about the development of a new strategic plan for the University of Idaho. Both the State Board of Education (SBOE) and our regional accrediting agency the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU) require us to have a plan. But, the most important reason to engage in this process is to help us envision and deliver the future of the University and the future of our College. Our process begins with a vision statement. President Staben provided that on September 11, 2015. Stating his overall ten-year goal to: “reshape Idaho’s higher education landscape and strengthen our university,” he wrote:

“I believe that research universities prepare their students not just with today’s knowledge, but with the ability to discover new knowledge, to solve novel problems, to lead — and thereby, to construct the future. The University of Idaho is Idaho’s major public research university, serving a land-grant mission in support of Idaho’s economy and society by educating students at the undergraduate, graduate and professional levels to meet the needs of Idaho and our region; by conducting research, scholarship, and creative activity of impact and purpose (basic and applied); and by engaging statewide to improve the lives of Idahoans.

UI will serve any qualified student, with a focus on enabling all qualified Idaho students access to education at a research university. Our resident students will be a cross-section of Idaho in ethnic, socioeconomic and demographic terms. Education at UI is not simply the transmission of knowledge, but the preparation to become a problem solver and lifelong learner.

The university will be a purpose-driven organization — a vibrant intellectual community that attracts, retains and develops great faculty and staff. We can achieve this by generating additional resources and by using our resources effectively, improving our physical and professional environment.”

Our immediate next steps are twofold. First, let’s look back at our old plans and think about what we accomplished, what we left undone, and what remains relevant to our work today. Here are some links to our last strategic plan:

University of Idaho Strategic Plan, 2011-2015  http://www.uidaho.edu/president/leadingidaho

CLASS Strategic Plan, 2011-2015  https://www.uidaho.edu/class/explore-our-college/strategic-plan

Second—and this is vitally important—to make this process work for us now and ten years from now, we need everyone’s participation. In the coming weeks, the Strategic Planning Steering Committee will inform
us all how we can participate in the process. I urge you to do so! In the end, this is not the SBOE’s plan; it’s not the NWCCU’s plan; it is our plan. It’s our roadmap to a new and even more vibrant University. Many thanks in advance for your hard work and good will!

Go Vandals!

- Andy (andrewkersten@uidaho.edu)

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A Note from Associate Dean Traci Craig

I want to begin by thanking all of the faculty who came to the CLASS Research and Creative Activity Showcase and provided our colleagues across campus the opportunity to learn more about the wide array of projects you all undertake. It is truly an honor to have such amazing colleagues. It was a great premier event and I have already begun to hear the beginnings of conversations that will most certainly lead to wonderful interdisciplinary opportunities. Many thanks to my colleague, Dr. Quinlan who managed the arrangements and brought to fruition an idea the Humanities Fellows of 2010 had been thinking about for years.

Advising will begin on October 19th, so please plan to help our students register for courses on time. There are many juniors and seniors who may still be missing the ISEM 301, please encourage them to register for a section as appropriate. Registration will open for seniors, athletes, and honors students on November 9th. As you meet with students be sure to take advantage of degree audit notes to help your students remember the important aspects of your meeting. As we all work on retaining students, it can be important that our students are aware of the many opportunities to be engaged on campus, interact with faculty, and find courses that serve their interests and goals. For junior and senior students, this is a good moment to recommend a visit to career services where they can begin to think about internships and career aspirations.

Remember that Student-Athletes have holds on their accounts that require them to meet with an adviser in Athletics before they can add/drop a course or change their registration. Also, students on academic probation will have to meet with an adviser (1st and 2nd years with Kristi or Lexi and 3rd and 4th years with the faculty adviser in their department) to have their hold removed before they can add or drop a course online. These deadlines come up quickly, please try to be available to help students as they make these changes to their schedule in the first two weeks of the semester.

--Traci (tcraig@uidaho.edu)
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sabbatical Leave Applications

Newly appointed committee chair Jeffrey A. Dodge to now receive applications. Sabbatical applications for the 2016-17 academic year are due Friday, October 30, 2015. Applications must be sent to the CLASS Dean’s Office (Jennie Hall; jenniej@uidaho.edu) by October 21 in order to receive a letter of support from Dean Kersten. Once all materials are secured, applications must be emailed to newly appointed committee chair Jeffrey A. Dodge, jdodge@uidaho.edu. The deadline for applications remains Friday, October 30, 2015. The instructions and application process can be found in FSH 3720: http://www.webpages.uidaho.edu/fsh/3720.html.

Commencement Marshalls Needed

Commencement is on December 12! And, we are in need of CLASS marshals for the event—an easy and fun way to participate by leading our students to the seating area at the Kibbie Dome. Commencement is at 12:30 p.m. and Marshals arrive approximately one hour early. Please contact Kristi Overfelt if you are interested in marshaling.

UPCOMING EVENTS

State of the University Address

President Chuck Staben will present the State of the University Address on Monday, October 5.

State of the University Address
Monday, October 5
3:30 pm – 4:30 pm
Bruce M. Pitman Center
International Ballroom

The address will be web streamed live at uidaho.edu/live

How to Get Published!

Suzanne Ryan, Editor-in-Chief for Humanities at Oxford University Press as well as Executive Editor for Music will give an address on “The Academic Book Publishing Landscape: What, Where, and How to Submit, and What to Expect Once You’ve Done So.” Ryan has extensive experience in working with authors on developing book projects and navigating the world of academic publishing. The address is open to the university community. October 8, 2015; 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. in the Idaho Commons Panorama room.
“Proof” Opens October 15 at the Hartung Theater

UI Theatre Arts is proud to present the award-winning “Proof” by David Auburn, October 15-25 at the Hartung Theater. Directed by CLASS professor and head of dramatic writing Robert Caisley, with scene design by the award-winning Theatre Arts assistant professor Jesse Dreikosen, “Proof” explores themes of trust, love and loss and received the 2001 Pulitzer Prize for Drama and the 2001 Tony Award for Best Play.

Performances are at 7:30 pm on October 15-17, 22-24 and 2:00 pm on October 18 and 25 at the Hartung Theater, 625 Stadium Drive. Admission is free for UI students, $15 for adults, $10 for UI faculty, staff and seniors (55 and older) and $5 for children (12 and younger). Tickets are available at BookPeople of Moscow, by phone at (208) 885-6465 and at the theater box office an hour before curtain.

GradFest

GradFest, the one-stop shop for everything commencement, will take place on Wednesday, October 21. Learn about products for your commencement needs, and purchase caps and gowns at early bird prices. Read more.

GradFest
October 21, 2015
10:00 am – 6:00 pm
Bruce Pitman Center, Vandal Ballroom

Regalia will be available for purchase online for faculty and students October 22 –November 8.

Book Signing for New Publication

Theatre Arts Professor Robert Caisley will have a book signing for his latest publication, “Lucky Me” at 6 p.m., October 29 at BookPeople, 521 South Main St., Moscow. A reception will follow. Open to the public, all are invited.

Confucius Institute – Upcoming Events

Please learn more about upcoming events presented by the Confucius Institute. Coming in October:

Chinese Lantern Festival
Now through November 1 – 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 Main Stage Events, held at Spokane Riverfront Park.

China on the Palouse
October 7 – 12:30 pm (first seminar)
Idaho Commons, White water Room
Chinese Movie Night – “So Young”  
October 14 – 7:00 pm  
Kenworthy Performing Arts Centre

KUDOS AND CONGRATULATIONS!

Priscilla Salant Receives Award for Her Work with Hispanic Communities

On September 15, Priscilla Salant, Director of the James A. and Louise McClure Center for Public Policy Research at the University of Idaho Boise, received the Amiga del Año award from the Idaho Commission on Hispanic Affairs. The award — which means “Friend of the Year” — is presented to a recipient who has gone beyond his or her work responsibilities to reach out to Hispanic communities in Idaho and who has a vested interest in the human rights issues that affect the Hispanic population. Congratulations, Priscilla!

REMINDERS

October 16 – November 4  University of Idaho Benefits Annual Enrollment

IMPORTANT DATES

October 12 – 16  Midterm exam week
October 19  Fall midterm grades due
October 19  Spring academic advising begins
October 30  Deadline to withdraw or change semester classes to audit

NEWS FROM CLASS DEPARTMENTS AND SCHOOLS

Department of Theatre Arts News

Theatre Students Entertain in Hollywood

Theatre Arts students provided the entertainment for a special gala event on the private lot of Fox Studios in Century City, California, on September 11.

The UI and CLASS special event was hosted by Theatre Arts alumna, Tanya Karn (’76), vice
Theatre Arts professors Matt Foss and Kelly Quinnett traveled with the group; Foss directed “The Little Prince” scene, and Quinnett led acting classes in Orange County art schools and reconnected with alumni from the Theatre Arts program.

“We were honored by this invitation to showcase student work and to renew friendships with alumni who’ve made a career in the entertainment industry,” said Ann Hoste, chair of UI Theatre Arts.

UI Theatre Participates in Mississippi Delta Tennessee Williams Festival

Theatre Arts assistant professor Matt Foss and MFA directing candidate Matthew Brumlow participated in the Mississippi Delta Tennessee Williams Festival on October 2. The two co-directed and appeared in Williams’ classic drama “The Glass Menagerie” with professional actors Nancy Lee-Painter and Cora Vander Broek.

"Williams wrote a major part of 'Glass Menagerie' while sitting at a table at the Atlantic House — a pub on Cape Cod," Foss said. "Being a memory play, we’re exploring that setting of the play's composition as a place to try and share the story and see what comes from it."

Last month, the production enjoyed two performances at Bloom in Moscow.