

Alumni Hall of Fame

Bruce Pitman '75, '89

Indiana native Bruce Pitman moved to Idaho in 1973 with his wife, Kathy, and the couple have made the town of Moscow their home for more than 45 years. Pitman earned a Masters' of Education in 1975 and Ph.D in Higher Education Administration in 1989. Their three children followed their father's example and all graduated from U of I.

An accomplished student affairs professional, Pitman retired as the Vice Provost of Student Affairs/Dean of Students in 2015 after serving the institution for 42 years and helping to shape the Vandal student experience. His career in in 1973 as Greek and Advisor and became Dean of Students in 1981. Pitman served as a cabinet member for three U of I presidents and two interim presidents. He is known for his thoughtful demeanor and commitment to a safe and transformative community.

During his time at U of I, he faced complex campus challenges that included many types of student crises, but also celebrated the academic success, volunteerism, involvement and philanthropic achievements of thousands of undergraduates.

He has improved the university community through his caring and compassionate leadership serving on countless task forces, councils, boards and work groups such as Staff Affairs, Faculty Council, the Idaho State Board of Education Alcohol Task Force and the U of I Retirees Association. Nationally he served on the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators, Northwest College Student Personnel Association and Phi Gamma Delta Fraternity National Board of Directors.

Pitman volunteers and serves as the president of Family Promise of the Palouse Board of Directors, addressing the needs of families and individuals who lack sufficient housing, food and other needs. As a member of the Moscow Human rights Commission, he works to eliminate discrimination, improve human relations and effectuate the spirit and intent of applicable human rights legislation.

His deep-rooted passion for the university, love of the community and genuine compassion toward others has led to his natural role as mentor to countless students, staff and colleagues. He has received the Outstanding Employee Award, Staff Service Award, National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA), Northwest College Personnel Association awards and Rosa Parks Human Rights Community Award. In 2015, the then-Student Union Building was renamed the Bruce M. Pitman Center in honor of the man who, for many, represents the heart of the student experience.

For leadership and contributions to student life and success, the University of Idaho Alumni Association proudly inducts Bruce M. Pitman into the Alumni Hall of Fame.