

ALUMNI CHAPTER HANDBOOK



University of Idaho
Office of Alumni Relations

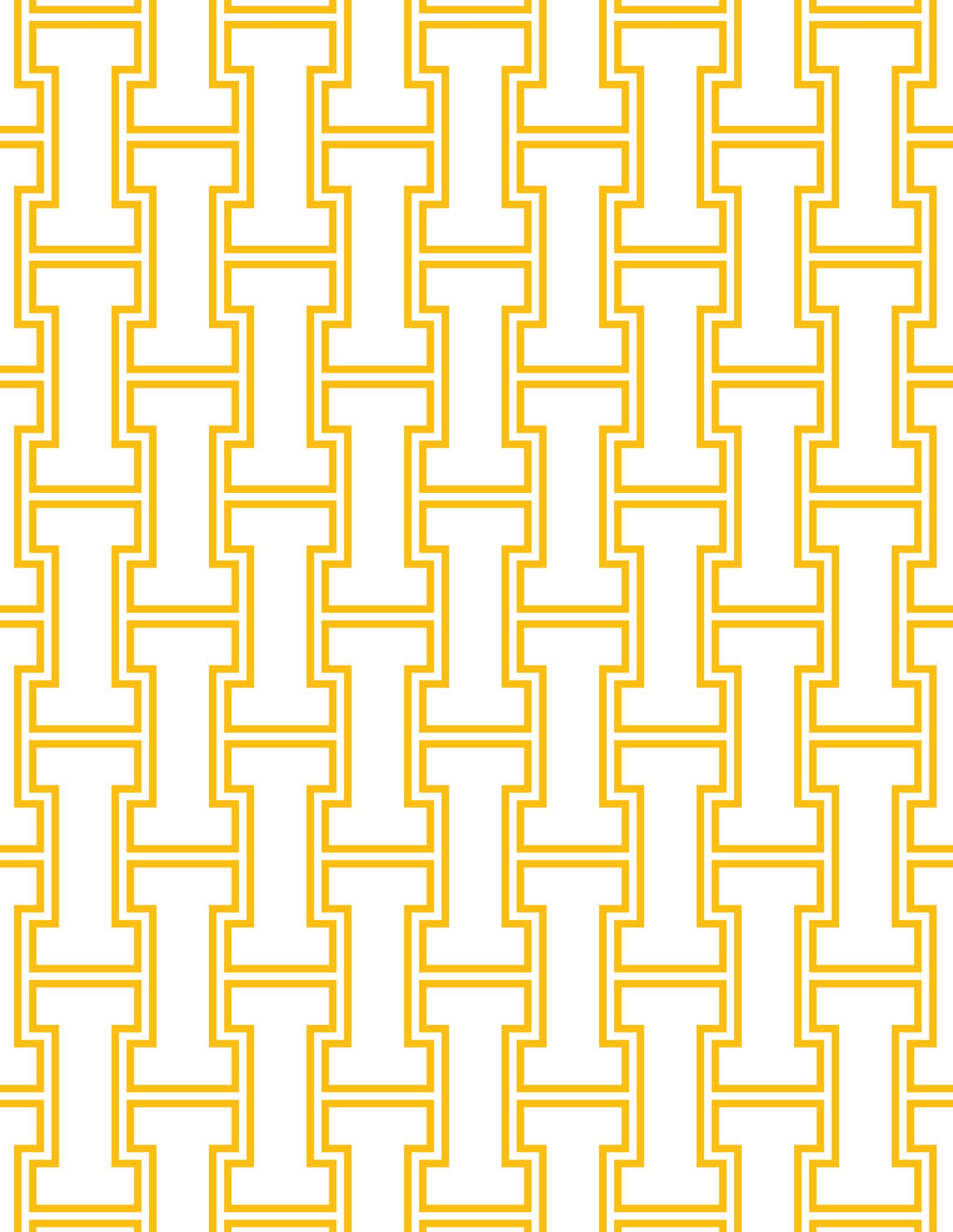


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OFFICE OF ALUMNI RELATIONS

Developing and Strengthening Lifelong Relationships

On behalf of the University of Idaho Alumni Association (UIAA) and the Office of Alumni Relations (OAR), we would like to extend a heartfelt thank you for volunteering. Your involvement is vital to our efforts in providing meaningful opportunities for alumni to connect (or reconnect) with each other and our institution. As a chapter volunteer, you will help U of I better serve its growing alumni population by providing, and encouraging, enthusiasm for the university throughout the nation.

OAR is responsible for cultivating relationships between alumni and the university and to provide leadership opportunities for alumni to engage in and support the work of our institution. Regional and affinity group chapters are the building blocks of the association, offering alumni various points of connection with U of I, no matter their geographic location, year of graduation or professional affiliation.

Through the chapter program, alumni can engage with the University of Idaho in their own backyard by interacting with fellow graduates in their community around common interests. The resources included in this handbook will help you plan, implement and evaluate activities that strengthen the Vandal Family.

Our request to you is that you become connected and involved and to encourage those in your region to do so as well. Tell your stories of how the university elevated you to your community organizations, to your friends and neighbors, to your legislators, to that student you know who is considering their options for higher education. Show off your silver and gold. Give your talent, time and treasure.

If you know of additional resources that would be helpful to you or other chapter volunteers, please contact your OAR Liaison. Thank you again for your volunteer support of the University of Idaho and our alumni.

Warm regards and go VANDALS!

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ABOUT

The UIAA is a non-dues-paying group, founded in 1898, that supports U of I alumni to connect them with their alma mater. This network of more than 109,000 alumni worldwide is made up of U of I graduates or students who have completed 90 credits or more. This organization is a nonprofit corporation with charitable, social and educational goals, pursuant to Title 30, Chapter II, of the laws of the State of Idaho in such cases made and provided. Members are added automatically and encouraged to advocate for our alma mater, participate in events, donate annually to a designation of their choice, update their contact information, recruit students and build affinity for the University of Idaho.

MISSION

We relentlessly and energetically work to build, strengthen and enrich the relationship among U of I alumni and their alma mater and among all sectors of the extended Vandal Family including alumni, current students, faculty, staff, parents, retirees and friends.

VISION

To advance U of I by serving and engaging every member of the extended Vandal Family.

CORE VALUES

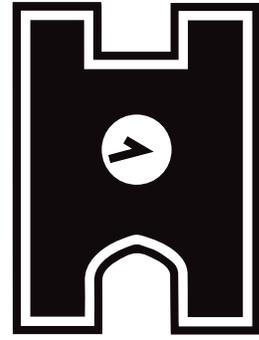
Excellence: We strive to provide the highest quality in everything we do.

Integrity: We do what we say we are going to do, honestly, fairly and respectfully.

Innovation: We are creative risk-takers who seek strategic solutions and embrace change for maximum impact.

Collaboration: We partner with and support other U of I units to advance the aspirations and reputation of the university.

Service: We are committed to doing everything possible to serve U of I alumni and the university.



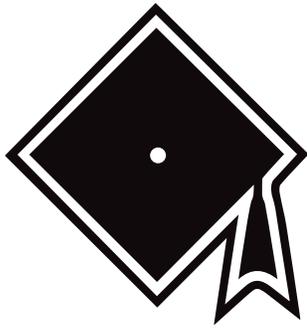
Founded in
1889



Mascot
VANDALS



University of Idaho



Degrees Awarded
130,554

Undergrad Majors
94

Graduate majors
62



Employees
2,651



Student | Faculty Ratio
16-1



Annual Research Fund
\$111.6 M

PRESIDENT AND ADMINISTRATION

President | C. Scott Green '84

Provost and Executive Vice President | John Wienczek

Vice President, University Advancement | Mary Kay McFadden '80

Vice President, Research and Economic Development | Vacant

Vice President, Finance and Administration | Brian Foisy

Vice President, Information Technology | Dan Ewart

Chief Diversity Office and Executive Director of Tribal Relations | Yolanda Bisbee '94

CHAPTER LISTINGS

IN IDAHO

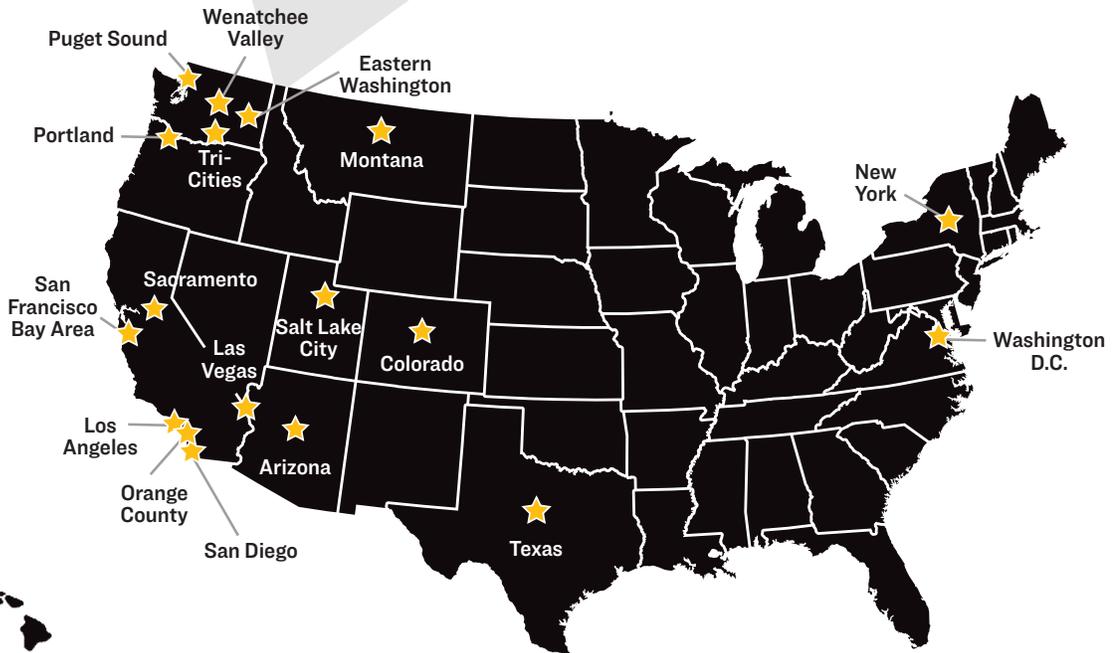
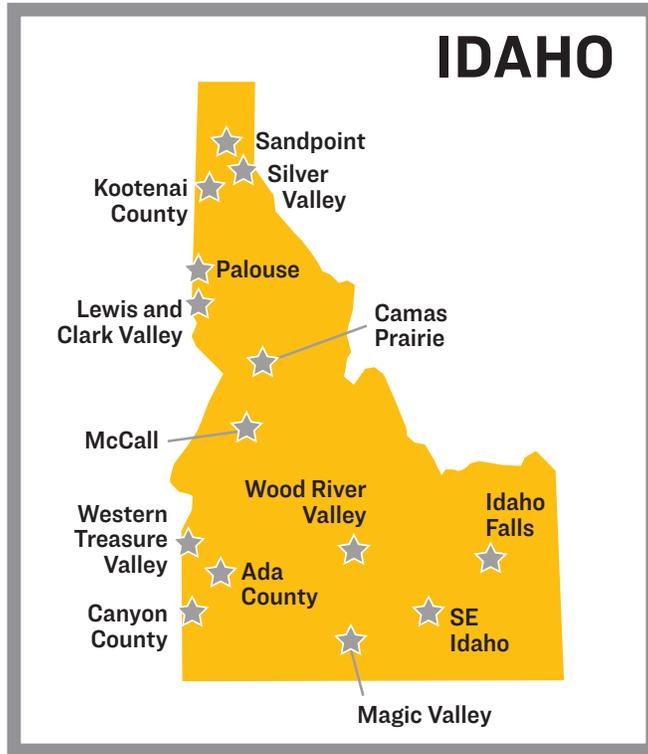
Ada County
Camas Prairie
Canyon County
Idaho Falls
Kootenai County
Lewis/Clark Valley
Magic Valley
McCall
Palouse
Sandpoint
SE Idaho
Silver Valley
Western Treasure Valley
Wood River Valley

OUTSIDE IDAHO

Alaska
Arizona
Colorado
Eastern Washington
Las Vegas
Los Angeles/Orange County
Montana
New York
Portland
Puget Sound
Sacramento
Salt Lake City
San Diego
San Francisco Bay Area
Texas
Tri-Cities
Washington, DC
Wenatchee Valley

AFFILIATE CHAPTERS

Global Chapter
Latinx Chapter



SECTION 1

Chapters

The University of Idaho's alumni chapters are organized, active groups of alumni and friends who promote the University of Idaho throughout the nation.

Chapter definition: a group of alumni and/or friends of the University of Idaho who coordinate events in their respective geographic area or for a specific alumni demographic (outlined below). A chapter supports our alma mater by encouraging connection with other alumni and the university. Each chapter is governed by a minimum of **three volunteers**.

CHAPTER TYPES

- Alumni of geographic-based chapters
- Alumni of affinity-based chapters set by non-geographic characteristics (for example: co-curricular involvement, cultural identity, sexual orientation/gender identity/expression)
- Alumni employees of certain corporations

CHAPTER STRUCTURE

- Chapter Leader
 - Plans and presides at chapter meetings
 - Oversees programming sponsored by the chapter
 - Maintains contact with assigned OAR Liaison
 - Serves as a positive ambassador of U of I
 - Commitment of 1-2 years (with option of continuing as leader)
- Plus two of the following:
 - Co-leader or leader in training
 - Alumni volunteer
 - Graduates of the Last Decade* (where applicable)
**University of Idaho's young alumni program, Graduates of the Last Decade (GOLD), keeps graduates engaged with their alma mater as active members of the community.*

CHAPTER LEADERS

How Chapter Leaders can help the university:

Provide information:

- About the alumni in your area – their promotions and businesses, community honors and awards, address changes, marriages, obituaries or any other information
- About any of your great ideas to promote the university and its alumni

Help with student recruitment:

- Representing the University of Idaho at a target high schools
- Submitting names of outstanding high school students to the Admissions Office
- Representing the University of Idaho at area high schools during official recruitment visits
- Telephone and card writing to congratulate students who have been admitted
- Encouraging campus visits
- Hosting receptions and information nights for prospective students

Career networking:

- Become familiar with career internship programs and suggest potential sponsors

CHAPTER EXPECTATIONS

Each year, the Office of Alumni Relations holds an annual retreat for all chapter volunteers to come together and learn from each other. All chapters must send a representative to this annual alumni volunteer retreat. Please work with your OAR Liaison to make your attendance arrangements.

A chapter annual plan should be set for a full calendar year to help maximize budget considerations, promotional plans, travel, special guest availability, etc. Your OAR Liaison will work with you to coordinate your plans starting in the fall of the each year to have dates firmed up by December. Flexibility is key to success of annual plans – adjustments may need to be made to accommodate any potential last-minute changes.

To be included:

- Silver & Gold Day (on or around April 7) to commemorate the founding of the Alumni Association in 1898
- Make a Difference Day (Fall)
- Chapter fundraiser
- Student recruitment event(s)
- Creating/Updating a guide for new chapter members (template provided)
- Vandal Athletic event(s): Watch parties (reliant on TV coverage), in-locale games (basketball, football, soccer, volleyball, etc.)
- Graduates of the Last Decade (GOLD) event(s)
- Career programming/networking event(s)
- Involvement in general alumni events – i.e. Ski Day, Rafting Day, Silverwood, Davenport Holiday Dinner

CHAPTER SUPPORT

Running an alumni chapter is a joint effort between Chapter Leaders, alumni volunteers and the Office of Alumni Relations. Your OAR Liaison will communicate with you on a regular basis to provide support in planning activities and events, as well as to offer expertise and guidance. If you have questions of any kind, please do not hesitate to reach out to your OAR Liaison.

Some ideas of assistance that we can provide:

- Coordination of event site and catering
- Event marketing
- Postage and printing of invitations (if needed)
- Online event registration and payment tools (for events with fees)
- RSVP tracking
- Payment management for event costs
- Event kits (name tags, attendance sheets, publications, decorations, etc.)
- Email and chapter website support
- Alumni contact lists
- Database management
- Online Chapter Leader Toolkit: uidaho.edu/chaptertoolkit

SECTION 2

Leading Your Chapter

The leadership structure of your chapter will depend on the specific format best suited to your needs. You may want to appoint chapter members to assist with coordinating specific events or in developing programming to appeal to specific groups of local alumni such as Graduates of the Last Decade.

ONLINE RESOURCES

The Chapter Leader Toolkit website has additional information and forms to help you as chapter volunteers. Make sure to bookmark this site: uidaho.edu/chaptertoolkit.

TIPS FOR RUNNING AN EFFECTIVE MEETING

Planning meetings, which can be open to all alumni, provide a forum for brainstorming ideas for future events, outlining an event schedule and deciding which communication methods will be most effective in promoting events. Meetings should be held on a regular basis.

- Choose a convenient date, time and location/space. Weeknights usually work best and the venue should be conducive to open conversation.
- Prepare an agenda with a defined start and end time. Volunteers will be more likely to stay involved when they see that chapter meetings are well organized and an efficient use of their time.
- Distribute a sign-in sheet. Meetings provide a good opportunity to make sure the university has updated contact information for local alumni.
- Encourage discussion. In most cases, the Chapter Leader serves as the moderator for the meeting, keeping the conversation going, inviting participants to offer their opinions and delegating follow-up tasks.
- Identify next steps. Meeting participants should leave with a clear sense of what will happen as a result of the meeting (e.g. a draft event schedule will be circulated by email, an event invitation will be sent out to local alumni) and any follow-up tasks for which they are responsible.
- Following a planning meeting, Chapter Leaders are encouraged to check in with their OAR Liaison to share updated contact information collected at the meeting, review decisions made regarding upcoming events and identify support needed by OAR to execute the chapter's plan for the future.

TIPS AND TIDBITS FOR MOTIVATING VOLUNTEERS

- Alumni volunteers will be more likely to respond to service opportunities when tasks are clearly related to institutional priorities, time-specific and results-oriented.
- Offer praise and enthusiasm! Doing so will make them likely to volunteer again.
- Strive for diverse activities. Take members interests into consideration.
- Give ample notice for meetings/activities. Ask members what days, times and dates are most convenient for them.

TRANSITIONING LEADERSHIP

When it is time to transition leadership, follow these steps to ensure that chapter engagement remains consistent and chapter members have the best experience possible.

CHAPTER LEADER

When there is an outgoing leader, the following steps should be taken:

- Notify your OAR Liaison about your decision to step down.
- The outgoing Chapter Leader should notify other chapter volunteers regarding their departure and ask if anyone is interested in the position.
- If the outgoing Chapter Leader is unable to find a replacement, your OAR Liaison will work to fill the position.
- Once a new Chapter Leader is selected, they should announce it on social media pages, plan a chapter meeting and keep up the momentum from past leadership.
- If possible, the outgoing and incoming leader should discuss chapter business, upcoming events and long-term plans.

CHAPTER DO'S AND DON'TS

DON'T sign contracts – Risk Management and Legal Counsel require university signatures.

DO suggest venues and events – you know your area better than your OAR Liaison.

DON'T call university leaders to attend. Your OAR Liaison will do that for you.

DO encourage people to attend. Email, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn all work well.

DON'T pay any of the bills. Your OAR Liaison will do that for you.

DO have fun with the chapter leadership group. Fun volunteers lead to more attendees!

DON'T have private checking or savings accounts. Legal Counsel prohibits this.

DO fundraising events to raise money for student scholarships. Help a student come to the University of Idaho!

SECTION 3

Events

A key responsibility of chapter leadership is determining the types and frequency of events most likely to appeal to alumni in your region.

All chapters are encouraged to begin planning for upcoming events as far in advance as possible to allow enough time for event logistics and communications to be completed in a timely manner.

IMPORTANT QUESTIONS

Here are some important questions to ask yourself as you begin to plan for a chapter event:

- Is the event important enough to attract the attention of alumni?
- Is the event significant – does it align with the institution’s mission and purpose to warrant the time, effort and cost involved?
- Will the event be interesting? Will it hold the attention of the attendees?
- Will the event entice people to remain active or get involved?
- How will the event be publicized?
- Is the event appropriate and consistent with the institution’s image?
- Will your event help U of I alumni with the following? Each event you hold should line up with two of these statements.
 - Advance their career
 - Learn something new
 - Get access to something they couldn’t otherwise do
 - Make a difference for their alma mater, community or a cause they support
 - Making meaningful connections with other attendees

EVENT IDEAS INCLUDE

- Student sendoff parties
- Supporting University of Idaho events in your local region
- Friendly competition (cornhole, bocce, volleyball, backyard games)
- Vandal Athletics pregame/tailgate
- Vandal Athletics watch party
- Academics-themed event
- Holiday gathering
- Concert/performance/cultural event
- Fundraising event –gala/silent auction/live auction/day on the lake
- Golf tournament
- Trivia night
- Travel/tour
- Family picnic or BBQ
- University of Idaho leadership visit
- Wine/beer/liquor tastings or tours
- Bowling
- Local sport team group night
- Notable alumni lecture/speaking event
- Music festival meet-up
- Community event meet-up or participation
- Roundtable discussion
- Hike, bike, ski, raft
- Sponsor/volunteer at local event
- Networking events
- Recruitment volunteerism
- Welcome to the “neighborhood” – regional based theme for recent grads
- Award ceremony

EVENT TIMELINE

12 - 14 Weeks Out	Discuss ideas for event with your OAR Liaison
10 Weeks Out	Date and program confirmed, venue selected
8 Weeks Out	Event fee determined (if applicable); invitation copy sent to your OAR Liaison - please include date, time, location, event fee if required, parking instructions and any other information to be included on the invitation
4-5 Weeks Out	Invitations mailed/emailed; event posted on chapter website and marketed with social media
3-4 Weeks Out	Catering ordered
1-3 Weeks Out	Reminder emails sent Event re-advertised through social media
1 Week Out	Event kit mailed if your OAR Liaison is not attending the event
1 Day Before	Final guest list prepared
Day Of Event	Arrive at least 60 minutes prior to ensure venue is set up properly Record accurate attendance Take pictures
Day Following Event	If the event is not staffed by your OAR Liaison, mail receipts and invoices to your OAR Liaison; email attendance list and photos to your OAR Liaison.

SECTION 4

Communication with Alumni

The most important work for alumni volunteers is engaging your personal network of alumni and friends. Word of mouth is the most critical form of communication and ranks first as the way alumni hear about events in their area. While OAR works to provide event information and details through its channels, we lean heavily on volunteers to engage in their circles.

Your OAR Liaison will assist you in developing a communication plan and communication execution. When using these communications tools, remember communication materials must meet U of I's brand standards. We need our brand to be bold and consistent. Refer to <https://www.uidaho.edu/brand-resource-center> for guidelines and templates.

TYPES OF COMMUNICATION CHANNELS MANAGED BY OAR:

SOCIAL MEDIA

Volunteers are invaluable when it comes to updating content and sparking engagement as you know your audience best. Chapter Leaders and volunteers are asked to post event photos, tag people, ask questions and generate virtual engagement.

Facebook: The main page is managed by OAR. Chapter events are posted there and shared in each group. On Facebook, like and follow @uidahoalumni.

- U of I Alumni Chapter Leadership Group – A place where all Chapter Leaders can discuss, brainstorm, vent and ask questions.
- Alumni Chapter Groups - Your OAR Liaison will add each chapter leader as an admin.

Instagram: Send event photos and “instaworthy” content to your OAR Liaison for posting to the Instagram story as a highlight or in the feed. Use @uidahoalumni as Instagram handle.

Twitter: Volunteers are encouraged to tag @uidahoalumni in relatable content, and then the OAR Marketing Manager will reply and engage. Use @uidahoalumni as Twitter handle.

Hashtags: #vandalumni #vandalgrad #uidahoalumni #vandaltailgate, #vandalsummer #vandalreunion #vandalhomecoming #vandalup

EMAIL

Lists are procured by your OAR Liaison and email is managed by the OAR Web Coordinator. Work with your OAR Liaison to develop text and proof text.

WEBSITE

OAR manages a website listing for all chapters. Changes should be suggested to your OAR Liaison. Events are posted to the alumni calendar which feeds into the main U of I online calendar.

Chapter listings site: <https://www.uidaho.edu/alumni/get-involved/chapters-clubs>

Alumni calendar: <https://www.uidaho.edu/alumni/events>

PHYSICAL MAILINGS

Design and mailing will be facilitated by your OAR Liaison. Best practice is to have a mailed piece delivered at least four weeks prior to the event.

- Work with your OAR Liaison for design input and proofing
- Allow two to four weeks to print after the design process
- All mailings are sent under bulk mail rates

SECTION 5

Managing Chapter Finances

OAR will collect revenue from chapter events, pay all bills, track chapter accounts and generate statements of account activity.

All chapter events are expected to break-even with expenses equaling revenue. In the event of a surplus or deficit of funds, the chapter account balance on file with OAR will be update accordingly.

OAR will provide the funds for the following circumstances:

- Room reservations
- Catering/food
- Event supplies
- Entertainment
- Other services

The University of Idaho operates on a fiscal year running from July 1 to June 30. Each chapter is allocated a budget amount based on anticipated events programs during the fiscal year. Budget planning occurs with the chapter volunteers and your OAR Liaison.

REIMBURSEMENTS

In rare circumstances, reimbursements will be made if original receipts and information are submitted to your OAR Liaison. (Note: You will be required to fill out a W-9 in order to be reimbursed).

CONTRACTS WITH OUTSIDE VENDORS

All contracts are subject to review by OAR. To avoid personal liability, Chapter Leaders should send contracts issued to your OAR Liaison. All contracts must be signed by the Purchasing Office.

Chapter Leaders should make every attempt to obtain a competitive price for services or merchandise when working with new and established vendors alike.

FUNDRAISING

Each chapter will have chapter scholarship funds through the University of Idaho Foundation. Fundraising activities at chapter events may be operated as long as approved by chapter leadership and your OAR Liaison, who may, at times, provide items for auction to raise scholarship funds.

Fundraising examples include:

- A Day on the Lake
- Silent or live auctions
- Raffles

SECTION 6

Alumni Awards

Each year, the University of Idaho Alumni Association and Office of Alumni Relations recognizes outstanding alumni, friends and students through a number of awards that celebrate achievements in volunteerism, success and commitment to the university. Deadlines vary for each category.

Website: <https://www.uidaho.edu/alumni/awards>

HALL OF FAME: Alumni who have achieved national or international distinction by their accomplishments and leadership.

DISTINGUISHED IDAHOAN AWARD: An alumna/alumni or friend who has an international or national reputation and has brought distinction to the state of Idaho and the University of Idaho.

HONORARY ALUMNI: Persons who have served the University of Idaho, and the university's alumni with great distinction while providing faithful and distinguished service to the University of Idaho.

SILVER AND GOLD AWARD: Recognizes living alumni who have a distinguished record of achievement and service.

JIM LYLE AWARD: Recognizes outstanding contributions to the university and/or alumni association through volunteerism.

BRAVE AND BOLD AWARD: Honors young alumni with outstanding career achievement and/or a record of volunteerism.

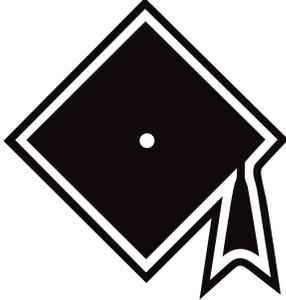
AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE: Senior-level, graduate and law students who have achieved academic success, have demonstrated career or professional preparation and have been involved in campus and community leadership.

For questions about any of these awards, contact your OAR Liaison.

SECTION 7

Fast Facts

DEGREES AWARDED



94,881	Bachelor's
26,137	Master's
4,507	Law
3,369	Doctorate
1,391	Specialist
269	Honorary



STUDENT HEADCOUNT

305	U of I Boise
160	U of I Coeur d'Alene
158	U of I Idaho Falls
9,328	U of I Moscow
22	U of I Twin Falls
1,953	Dual Enrollment

STUDENT ENROLLMENT

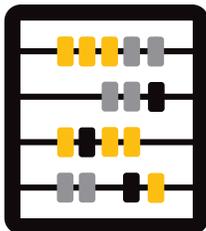


11,926	Enrollment
8,494	Full-Time Students
5,950	Female Students
5,976	Male Students
55	Prefer Not to Answer
56	National Merit Scholars



DIVERSITY

17%	Minority Students
71%	White
9%	Unkown Race Ethnicity
4%	International



GENERAL EDUCATION BUDGET

Estimated

\$76,974,300	General Fees
\$91,500,700	State General Fund (BASE)
\$1,226,200	State General Fund (One Time)
\$10,498,800	Land-Grant Endowments

TOTAL
\$180,200,000

SECTION 8

Campus Resources

UNIVERSITY ADVANCEMENT

By building lasting relationships with many groups and individuals, we are able to inspire investment, empower ambassador groups and encourage active engagement. Together, we create a lifetime of impact. Departments include: Advancement Services, Annual Giving, Advancement Communications, Alumni Relations, Corporate and Foundation Relations, and Estate, Trust and Gift Planning.

Telephone: 208-885-6155
Email: advancement@uidaho.edu

Website: www.uidaho.edu/advancement
Locations: Hays Hall, 1212 Blake Ave., Moscow, Idaho 83844
322 E. Front, Suite 200, Boise, Idaho 83702

OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS

The Office of Admission serves as the primary resource for admitting first-year freshmen and transfer students. Contact the Office of Admission to schedule a visit to campus or for any questions related to the admission process.

Telephone: 208-885-6326
Email: admissions@uidaho.edu

Website: www.uidaho.edu/admissions
Location: Bruce M. Pitman Center,
709 Deakin Street, Room 111, Moscow, Idaho 83844

OFFICE OF ALUMNI RELATIONS

The Office of Alumni Relations strives to develop and strengthen lifelong relationships with alumni by serving as a catalyst for communications and involvement between alumni and the U of I community; promoting the vision and core values of U of I's historic land grant mission of teaching, research and public service; and to enlist alumni talents in the preservation and promotion of image, tradition and pride.

In addition to planning annual events such as Homecoming, Parent & Family Weekends, GradFair, reunions and special events, this office also coordinates volunteer opportunities, services and communication for U of I alumni and friends.

Telephone: 208-885-6154
Email: alumni@uidaho.edu

Website: www.uidaho.edu/alumni
Location: Hays Hall, 1212 Blake Ave., Moscow, Idaho 83844
322 E. Front, Suite 200, Boise, Idaho 83702

CAREER SERVICES

Career Services provides students and alumni with services and resources to empower them as they make critical life decisions and pursue career success. Each year Career Services brings hundreds of employers to campus to network with, interview and hire U of I students and alumni.

Telephone: 208-885-6121
Email: careerservices@uidaho.edu

Website: www.uidaho.edu/current-students/career-services
Location: Idaho Student Union Building, Room 334, Moscow, Idaho 83844

UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

The marketing team of University Communications and Marketing (UCM) increases university brand awareness and visibility, separating U of I from its competitors and contributing to enrollment and donation growth. The University of Idaho's communications team is dedicated to promoting and delivering the stories and messages of the university, its faculty, staff and students.

Telephone: 208-885-6291
Email: jpankopf@uidaho.edu

Website: www.uidaho.edu/brand-resource-center
Location: Forney Hall, Room 219, Moscow, Idaho 83844

UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS TICKET OFFICE

Telephone: 208-885-6466
Email: tickets@uidaho.edu

Website: www.govandals.com
Location: Kibbie-ASUI Activity Center, Moscow, Idaho 83844

UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO CENTERS

U of I Boise

The University of Idaho Boise provides access to all University of Idaho resources to southwest Idaho. U of I Boise is focused on community impact, regional economic development and supporting university growth, as well as having an engaged university campus with a climate of inclusion for employees throughout its regions of responsibility.

Telephone: 208-334-2999
Email: boise@uidaho.edu

Website: www.uidaho.edu/boise
Location: 322 E. Front Street, Boise, Idaho 83702

U of I Coeur d'Alene

The University of Idaho Coeur d'Alene has a 118-year legacy of discovery, education and service in North Idaho. Today, the center offers certificate, bachelor's, master's and doctorate programs in Coeur d'Alene. Convenient class schedules and online degrees allow students to obtain a world-class education while maintaining the quality of life available here. Staff and faculty work alongside business, community and academic partners to promote economic development and research opportunities. The center is committed to helping all people of North Idaho, regardless of age and education, the opportunity to achieve your desired success.

Telephone: 208-667-2588
Email: cdactr@uidaho.edu

Website: www.uidaho.edu/cda
Location: 1031 N. Academic Way, Suite 242, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83814

U of I Idaho Falls

The University of Idaho, Idaho Falls provides access to all U of I resources in southeastern Idaho and the partnerships it shares with the Idaho National Laboratory (INL), the Center for Advanced Energy Studies (CAES) and other state institutions. U of I Idaho Falls is focused on offering excellent research and educational opportunities to traditional and non-traditional students, meeting society's critical needs in mutually beneficial partnerships and engaging the community in a purposeful, ethical and vibrant manner.

Telephone: 208-757-5450
Email: ui-if@uidaho.edu

Website: www.uidaho.edu/idaho-falls
Location: 1776 Science Center Drive, Suite 306, Idaho Falls, Idaho 83402

UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO EXTENSION

University of Idaho Extension brings the knowledge and research of the University of Idaho to you, where you live, when it's convenient for you. University of Idaho Extension provides reliable, research-based education and information to help people, businesses and communities solve problems, develop skills and build a better future. With a statewide network of faculty and staff in 42 counties, three federally recognized tribes and nine College of Agricultural and Life Sciences research and extension centers, we work to transform knowledge into solutions that work.

Telephone: 208-885-5883
Email: extension@uidaho.edu

Website: www.uidaho.edu/extension
Location: E.J. Iddings Agricultural Science Laboratory
606 S. Rayburn Street, Moscow, Idaho 83844

FIGHT SONG

First sung at an Idaho football game in 1931, “Go, Vandals, Go” was adopted as Idaho’s only fight song. It was

composed by J.M. “Morey” O’Donnell, a longtime Moscow attorney, when he was a freshman at the university. A native of Granite, Idaho (north of Coeur d’Alene), Morey was a child prodigy who began playing the piano at age six, was in an orchestra by 13 and was traveling the world with a dance orchestra by the time he entered the university in 1930. At that time, Idaho’s fight song was “On Idaho,” which was sung to the tune of “On Wisconsin.” The Associated Students of the University of Idaho (ASUI) sponsored an annual songfest competition among the classes, and one of its purposes was to find a new fight song. “Go, Vandals, Go” won the competition in 1930 and immediately became the Vandals only mantra. It was copyrighted by the university in 1931.

The chorus was written as whole notes and half notes so that it could be easily sung by a large crowd. Many school songs are difficult to sing because of the fast beat used to make them spirited. “Go, Vandals, Go” instead relies on a heavy drum beat and the nature of the words to carry the spirit. As a result, it is continually cited as one of the top college fight songs in America.

GO, VANDALS, GO

Came a tribe from the North, brave and bold,
Bearing banners of Silver and Gold;
Tried and true to subdue all their foes
Go Vandals, go mighty Vandals!

Go, Vandals, go,
Fight on with hearts true and bold,
Foes will fall before your Silver and your Gold,
The victory cannot be withheld from thee,
So all bear down for Idaho,
Come on old Vandals, go!

I-D-A-H-O
Idaho, Idaho, Go! Go! Go!

The victory cannot be withheld from thee,
So all bear down for Idaho,
Come on old Vandals, go!



ALMA MATER

The Idaho state song, composed by Sallie Hume Douglas, was copyrighted on November 4, 1915, under the title “Garden of Paradise.” In 1917, McKinley Helm, a student at the University of Idaho, wrote the verse that became the chorus of the Idaho state song, and Alice Bessee set the words to the music by Douglas. The song was popular then, and Bessee had no idea of its origin. This song won the annual university prize for that year, and eventually became the university alma mater. Albert J. Tompkins, director of Music in the Boise Public Schools, wrote a set of verses for the song. In 1931, the Idaho legislature designated “Here We Have Idaho”, previously known at the University of Idaho as “Our Idaho,” as the Idaho state song.

HERE WE HAVE IDAHO

You’ve heard of the wonders our land does possess,
It’s beautiful valleys and hills,
The majestic forests where nature abounds,
We love every nook and rill.

(Chorus)

And here we have Idaho
Winning her way to fame.
Silver and gold in the sunlight blaze,
and romance lies in her name.
Singing, we’re singing of you,
Ah, proudly too,
All our lives thru, we’ll go singing, singing of you,
Singing of Idaho.

There’s truly one state in this great land of ours
Where ideals can be realized.
The pioneers made it so for you and me,
A legacy we’ll always prize.

(Chorus)





University of Idaho
Office of Alumni Relations

Revised 2020