With two months of the spring semester behind us I would like to provide a brief CBE update. First, I appreciate that our faculty and staff are maintaining their focus upon what we agreed is our purpose: Learning together to meet the opportunities and challenges of a competitive world. Evidence of their efforts abound in the outcomes achieved by our students and graduates, their research, and the growing body of evidence highlighting the productivity of the CBE.

As President Green has shared, the University of Idaho is facing a significant budget challenge. The budget reduction goal for the university is $22 million. That total is the result of a $14 million operating deficit and an additional $8 million in anticipation of a possible tuition revenue shortfall.

College level budget reduction targets have been assigned by the Provost and we are working to accommodate a decrease in the CBE budget, while ensuring that our students continue to receive the same great education as our Vandal alums. While budget reductions result in their own set of challenges, they also have a way of focusing our attention on what is most important: providing access to outstanding educational opportunities for our students.

Going forward, by reducing spending in order to live within the university’s budget we will be positioned to invest in areas important to the future of the university and our stakeholders. At the college level, the CBE is working with the Provost and University leadership to eliminate the budget deficit and develop processes to guide the allocation of resources as the university moves forward. Thanks to the efforts of CBE faculty, staff and supporters our students will continue to have access to all the experiential and co-curricula learning opportunities as their predecessors.

Our donors and external supporters are continuing to provide resources and opportunities to enhance our students’ experiences through executive shadow and internship opportunities, scholarships, travel, executive speaker engagements and similar professional development opportunities.

A campus visit team representing our accrediting agency, the Association for the Advancement of Collegiate Schools of Business (the AACSBS) is scheduled to be in Moscow March 8-10. Teams visit each accredited school as part of the reaffirmation of accreditation process that occurs every five years. Our self-study reports for both the college and our accounting department have been prepared and submitted—with many thanks to Associate Dean Darryl Woolley and Accounting Department Head Marla Kraut for leading preparation of those reports. We hosted the chair of the visit team back in November and received very positive feedback from the team chair. We are looking forward to hosting the full visit team.

Elsewhere in this newsletter you will learn about some of the research our faculty are pursuing, read about students and their executive shadow experiences, and other student highlights and achievements. In future updates we will share information about projects we are pursuing with partners both on- and off-campus, such as a co-op program for students (a longer, more engaging version of an internship), outreach efforts in Boise and Coeur d’Alene, our student recruiting efforts and graduate achievements.

In the meanwhile, Go Vandals!

Marc
From Burley to the BIG APPLE

Alejandra Mojica has been working her entire life to get ahead in the classroom.

With the help of two summer internships ahead of her senior year at the University of Idaho, the senior finance and accounting major may soon be making waves in the boardroom as well.

Mojica returned this fall after spending summer 2019 at investment bank JPMorgan Chase & Co. in New York City as an intern. Impressive on its own, it followed a summer internship with multinational corporation Johnson and Johnson in 2018.

And while the trading floor and capital management skills of the U of I Barker Trading Program helped prepare Mojica for her future jobs, seeking that opportunity was something she’d long been looking for.

“I grew up in Burley. Animals and field work were my childhood,” Mojica said. “Agriculture is backbreaking work, though, and like so many families doing seasonal work, our family lived paycheck-to-paycheck. My parents wanted more for me, and my mom saw education as the way to a better life.”

Mojica’s mom and dad migrated from Mexico to the United States in the 1990s. Her mom worked in sewing and manufacturing factories, while her father labored in the fields and orchards of California. They eventually made their way to Idaho’s Magic Valley.

“The University of Idaho was very appealing – I could double major in both accounting and finance, and it was the most affordable” she said.

With the discipline learned from a childhood in agriculture and encouragement from family, Mojica eventually saw college as a real option. Like many first-generation college students, though, neither she nor her family had any experience navigating the higher education pipeline.

That wasn’t a problem for Mojica.

“Alejandra is a tenacious self-starter beneath a calm disposition,” said Darek Nalle, director of the Barker Trading Program.

Mojica has taken on leadership positions in the Barker Trading Program and the Association of Latino Professionals for America (ALPFA), a student group while studying two majors in the College of Business and Economics.

She will graduate in spring 2020 having funded two Bachelor of Science degrees with scholarships. Doing so provided the financial flexibility for Mojica to take advantage of the high-profile internships – and ignited a passion for her future. Mojica hopes to pursue a career helping minorities get better access to financial services and banking systems.

Article by Ross Wulf, College of Business and Economics

Alejandra Mojica’s Efforts in Finance and Accounting Have Landed Her Rewarding Internships on Wall Street
University of Idaho graduate Justin Chapman carves out a career in the commodities markets through the Barker Trading Program.

Now I’m the one holding the firehose, and realize it’s less about what I know and more how I can teach what I know to others.
By all accounts, 22-year-old Justin Chapman shouldn’t be headed to Fargo, North Dakota, as a grain merchandiser when he graduates from the University of Idaho this spring.

Chapman’s father builds homes. His mom works in healthcare. No one in his extended family has roots in either financial services or agriculture. Nonetheless, the U of I graduate from McCall will begin at food processor and commodities trader Archer Daniels Midland two weeks after graduation.

“I originally wanted to be a pediatric physician or radiologist,” Chapman said. “But during my senior year of high school I took an introductory economics course, including a stock market simulation game. That’s when I caught the bug.”

With a handful of college credits from advanced placement and dual-credit high school classes under his belt, Chapman decided to follow that bug and seek a Bachelor of Science in finance.

“I came to the University of Idaho to study financial markets in the Barker Trading Program,” he said. Housed in the university’s College of Business and Economics, the Barker Trading Program includes an on-campus student trading room similar to the Wall Street Stock and Chicago Mercantile exchanges. Instructor of Finance Darek Nalle oversees Barker, and additional relevant courses are taught by Finance Professor Terry Grieb.

“Barker is unique to the University of Idaho because students have the opportunity to put real capital at risk in any market of their choosing,” Chapman said. “We manage our portfolio actively with ebbs and flows of the economy. Other programs either don’t use real money, or don’t give the students enough freedom to explore different strategies.”

The difference between trading real and simulated money is, “the butterflies,” he said. “We want students to have butterflies in their stomachs before making a trade.”

Real money is being made or lost, and Chapman has felt the gravity of financial losses in the student trading room.

“The first semester of my junior year I had, without realizing, placed enough leverage in the market to sink not one, but three student accounts if a worst-case event had happened with the trades I made,” he said. Fortunately that didn’t happen, and “no accounts went bankrupt.”

Overwhelmed with coursework, and still pretty new to the trading program, Chapman admits he wasn’t making the best decisions.

“Professor Terry Grieb benched me for the semester,” he said. “It was a hard crash to Earth being told I couldn’t trade, and that my promotions within the group were stripped away.”

It was that last part – having the opportunity to become Barker’s chief investment officer taken away – that really stung.

But it was just the sting he needed.

“In the trading room, information and knowledge comes at you like water from a firehose. And I showed up every day, ready to drink,” Chapman said.

And drink he did. A year later, Chapman was named the program’s chief investment officer.

“Now I’m the one holding the firehose, and realize it’s less about what I know and more how I can teach what I know to others,” he said.

Making that distinction has allowed him to successfully mentor the Barker Trading Program’s 24 analysts and six portfolio managers.

“The students who excel in actively managing the Barker portfolio are invited to become funded traders, and they are allowed to trade anything,” he said. “There are very few constraints. Instructor Nalle rejects group-think and encourages you to find your niche.”

This freedom allowed Chapman to strategically carve out a place for himself in the commodities market.

“So many areas of trading are automated. It’s just a matter of who makes the trade first – did it take five milliseconds, or did your competitor make the trade in two milliseconds,” he said.

However, commodities are a little trickier than just buying or selling.

Factors are ever-changing and so interdependent in commodities trading that algorithms and computers are unable to put it all together. Even if they could, artificial intelligence isn’t capable of converting that data into meaningful information farmers, exporters, processors and transporters can use to make financial decisions. This information seems endless: labor strikes at ports halting exports; replacement part shortages from trade tariffs slowing processing; or record-breaking rainfall that has miles of railroad under 6 inches of water, stalling transport.

“As a grain merchandiser, my job is to maximize profits for farmers while minimizing their risks,” Chapman said. “I will be a hub of information for farmers and everyone who interacts with their crops.”

This means being up-to-date on information regarding exporters, processors and rail companies while simultaneously knowing the latest movements and trends in the commodities markets.

Chapman is ready for the challenge.

“Most important, my time in the College of Business and Economics’ Barker Trading Program has taught me how to learn,” he said.
This summer the Executive Education team will deliver the 67th consecutive Energy Executive Course (EEC) and the 10th annual Energy Executive Summit.

The 2020 EEC reflects CBE’s unwavering commitment to partner with industry to create a relevant and dynamic learning experience for energy leaders. Over the past year, we have been working with our industry Advisory Committee to re-imagine and launch the future EEC.

To address the challenges of today’s increasingly demanding expectations and work environment, we are reducing the onsite time in Moscow and reinvesting the savings from lodging into an online learning platform. This timely update allows us to enhance the overall experience without raising the fee. EEC’s new structure will allow participants to leverage the many benefits of self-paced, self-directed learning.

By restructuring face-to-face sessions and introducing a more efficient learning platform online, we have designed an even higher-value learning experience.

**RESULTS:**

- The time commitment for participants will be reduced from 20 to 14 days.
- The new schedule will continue to deliver 100% of the excellent energy education we’re known for in 30% fewer days.
- New high-value content on current trends and several new events will create even more outstanding learning and network-building opportunities.

Our 2020 Idaho energy programs offer two exceptional learning experiences:

- The 2-week **Energy Executive Course** — June 14-25, 2020
- The 3-day **Energy Executive Summit** — June 23-25, 2020
The Legislative Energy Horizon Institute (LEHI) is a 60-hour program in energy policy designed specifically for state and provincial legislators to provide intensive exposure and insight to the North American energy system. Established in 2009, 297 policymakers representing 38 U.S. states, District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and five Canadian provinces and territories have completed the Institute, including 29 from Idaho.

**INSTITUTE PARTNERS:**

Pacific Northwest Economic Region  
University of Idaho  
U.S. Department of Energy  
National Conference of State Legislatures  
Government of Canada  
Pacific Northwest National Laboratory

**INDUSTRY SPONSORS:**

Puget Sound Energy  
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American Public Power Institute  
ExxonMobil  
Berkshire Hathaway Energy  
Marathon  
American Electric Power  
Dominion Resources

CBE Leadership and the Idaho Delegation—2019 Graduation Ceremony at the Canadian Embassy in Washington, DC  
From left to right: Dean Marc Chopin, Senator Daniel Johnson, Yvonne Sertich, Dishonna Arnett, Representative Linda Wright Hartgen, Senator Jim Woodward, Senator David Nelson
BACHELORS

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GRADUATION
2018-2019
The Jack Morris Executive Speaker Series (JMESS) is a program developed in honor of former Dean Jack Morris who led the College of Business & Economics from 2006 to 2011. Dean Morris was a firm believer in the topics of business integration and experiential learning being covered within the college for its respective students and the program strives to emphasize both of those topics each semester.

JMESS hosts 3-5 executive speakers each semester who present to the University of Idaho’s College of Business & Economics (CBE) 490 capstone class students. Business students in the 490 class experience 6-10 different points of view over the course of their senior years from successful leaders spanning various business disciplines. Topics presented on and discussed often focus on overall business strategy but also touch upon professional development and career path advice.

Thank you to our JMESS speakers last fall:

**FALL 2019**
- Michelle Aragon, SVP and Managing Director, Business Solutions at MAGNA
- Hamilton Galloway, Head of Consultancy, Americas at Oxford Economics
- April Arzen, HR Vice President at Micron Technology
- Major General Erik Peterson, Director of Force Development, U.S. Army – G-8

If you have interest in presenting as part of the JMESS program, contact Brian Mitchell, Director of Development, at bdmitchell@uidaho.edu.

**NOTEWORTHY EVENTS**

**CBE NETWORKING NIGHT**
Each semester CBE hosts a Networking Night the evening before the University of Idaho’s Career Fair. Organized by students in Vandal Solutions, this event is a chance for business students to pitch themselves to 18+ employers over wine and hors d’oeuvres. Both fall 2019 and spring 2020 Networking Nights brought companies from around the country, and students from a mix of disciplines, together for an evening devoted to career opportunities on the Student Level of the Albertson Building. If you would like your company to attend CBE’s next Networking Night, contact Tammy Renfrow at trenfrow@uidaho.edu.

**BOISE STARTUP WEEK**
Dean Marc Chopin and George Tanner, Idaho Entrepreneur Director, attended Boise Startup Week with student entrepreneurs this past October. Devin Richards, a civil engineering student, took home $500 for Trash2Gas. Morgan Morrisroe and Maggie Zee, students studying apparel, textiles and design, also won $500 for their Ember Gloves.
Students pitch EMBER GLOVES, hand gloves providing warmth and dexterity to the working person through a unique wrapping design with self-heating technology, to Dean Marc Chopin.

JOHN ERSTAD and MATTHEW RYDEN are part of a team that has designed a kit that converts skis into a stretcher and are ready to pitch that idea to investors.

IDAHO PITCH – Fall 2019

University of Idaho students were ready to pitch their entrepreneurial ideas to College of Business and Economics alumni and university leadership last fall during the semester’s Idaho Pitch competition.

Over two dozen teams of students from multiple colleges and majors across the university pitched their unique proposals to 35 judges. Held in the Bruce M. Pitman Center, U of I students from as far away as Sweden and Nepal, along with those from Idaho and the Northwest, competed for cash prizes to fund their ideas.

These ideas included a range of wearable technologies used in preventing hospitalizations to showing you care at the right moment; 3D printed functional prosthetics for low-income amputees; and a trailer suspension system requiring less maintenance and reducing noise while providing a smoother towing experience.

IDAHO PITCH COMPETITION WINNERS INCLUDED:

FIRST PLACE, $1,250 – KEEN-UP, a nutritious quinoa-based snack to power you through your day! Keep Up with Keen-Up! Zachary Waite, Coeur d’Alene, College of Business and Economics (CBE); Naif Abu Hasan, CBE; Imaar Alaraimi, CBE; Mashael Al Mukhaini, CBE; Allan Gathercoal, Coeur d’Alene, CBE; Liz Marcela Gathercoal, Coeur d’Alene, CBE.

SECOND PLACE, $750 – RAWSTRAW – 100%, locally sourced and biodegradable single use straws made from Swedish rye straw: Linnea Jerlebo, Loeddekoeping, Sweden, CBE.

THIRD PLACE, $500 – EMBER GLOVES – Hand gloves providing warmth and dexterity to the working person through a unique wrapping design with self-heating technology: Nicol DeHoog, Parma, College of Agricultural and Life Sciences (CALS); Dwain Stucker, Meridian, College of Engineering; Morgan Morrisroe, Boise, CALS; Taylor Sheldon, Boise, College of Art and Architecture (CAA).

FOURTH PLACE, $250 – IN-SESSION – a value-driven, virtual reality experience to support educators and coordinators in behavioral management education: Joe Mitchell; John Wheeless, Idaho Falls, CAA.

CROWD CHOICE, $250 – IN-SESSION
ANNOUNCEMENTS

2018-2019
SABBATICALS

Lori Baker-Eveleth
PROFESSOR OF MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS
Where is the largest population of Basque people outside of Spain? Boise, Idaho! This local connection, along with having had many students study abroad in Bilbao, Spain over the years, naturally drew Lori Baker-Eveleth to the region. “I had visited many countries in Europe but had never been to Spain,” she said.

Baker-Eveleth lived to Bilbao for 4 months during her sabbatical. “I taught two courses in the University Studies Abroad Consortium program with students from all over the United States and Europe,” she said.

Baker-Eveleth also attended a conference in Lisbon, Portugal and connected with faculty from Ireland’s Maynooth University. “We’ve been able to collect data and compare mobile app use among college students in the United States and Ireland for use in our research,” Baker-Eveleth said. “This international work allows me to bring more global issues into the classroom while expanding my own research.”

The sabbatical also allowed Baker-Eveleth to immerse herself in Basque culture, visit Spanish sites and enjoy both Basque and Spanish food. “I toured Madrid and Valley of the Fallen to learn about the Spanish Civil war,” she said. “I also went to San Juan de Gaztelugatxe, known to Game of Thrones fans as Dragonstone Island,” she said.

Yun Chung
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF MANAGEMENT AND HUMAN RESOURCES

“This sabbatical revitalized my career,” said Yun Chung of her time away from teaching.

“Leading up to my year away, several research projects of mine were at a stand-still: I needed time to learn new theories and statistical techniques before I could develop research models and write the papers. Given time to do this learning improved my research abilities and diversified the areas I’m studying,” Chung said.

Additionally, Chung was able to present at, and collaborate on research with, the Korean Women’s Development Institute. “My sabbatical allowed for time to organize a fault line scholar social at the annual Academy of Management meeting, take an international business class in Spain and network with scholars from several countries,” Chung said.

Research completed, networks strengthened, and her knowledge base expanded, Chung came back to school ready to teach. “Based on my sabbatical experiences, I made major changes to my courses and materials,” Chung said. “I also incorporated more international-related subjects and cases in my classes.” Chung also serves as co-advisor to CBE’s Society for Human Resources Management club.

Eric Stuen
PROFESSOR OF ECONOMICS

Eric Stuen spent much of his sabbatical in Australia after a colleague invited him to collaborate on a research project. “At the University of New England, Nam Hoang and I began assessing how China’s investment in high-speed rail infrastructure effected their economy,” Stuen said. Located halfway between Sydney and Brisbane, the university’s location allowed Stuen to enjoy the Tableland region’s unique offerings: city life, dozens of national parks and east coast beaches. “One highlight of the trip was a visit to the Great Barrier Reef,” Stuen said.

Additionally, Stuen participated in a Fulbright Specialist Exchange with the University of Economics in Saigon, Vietnam – a school of 20,000 students located in a city of 12 million people. “I was the keynote speaker at a research conference, and also taught smaller seminars while visiting classes – both of which were great venues to speak about the University of Idaho and talk to students interested in studying here,” Stuen said. “I gained a lot of knowledge about how Vietnam is changing and developing and am able to share this with our students here Moscow.”
**PROMOTION AND TENURE**

**Daniel Hickman** was awarded tenure and is now one of two Associate Professors of Economics in the college. He teaches Econometrics, Labor Economics and Public Finance. Professor Hickman’s areas of research include sports, labor and public economics.

**Steven Peterson** was promoted to Associate Clinical Professor of Economics. He teaches many of the principle economic courses. Professor Peterson’s areas of research include regional and local economic impact analyses and the economics of both education and natural resources.

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**AWARDS AND RESEARCH**

**D.A. Davidson & Co.** awarded the University of Idaho student team in College of Business and Economics as the winner of the annual **Fred Dickson Memorial Award**. This is the highest honor in the firm’s Student Investment Program and one team is selected annually as the most outstanding participant. As winners of the 5th annual award, the Vandals will receive a $2,000. The student group is conducted under the direction of Magdy Noguera, Associate Professor of Finance at the university.

**Berna Devezner**, Associate Professor of Marketing, and her colleagues’ paper **Scientific discovery in a model-centric framework: Reproducibility, innovation and epistemic diversity** has raised more than a few eyebrows since being published in May 2019. It was initially published by PLOS ONE and received approximately 2700 views in its first week. Most recently the researcher’s work has been accepted for publication at Computational Brain & Behavior as part of a two-stage special issue where they will be featured twice: the first will be a target/lead article, while the second will be a conclusion article.

Berna Devezner’s colleagues include Luis G. Nardin, Lecturer of Computing, National College of Ireland; Bert Baumgaertner, Associate Professor of Philosophy, University of Idaho; and Erkan Ozge Buzbas, Associate Professor, Department of Statistical Science, University of Idaho.
230 College of Business and Economics (CBE) scholarships were awarded last year from donors who gave nearly $700,000 to the CBE’s Scholarship Fund. These awards bridge the divide between students and their goal of graduating college with a business degree.

Among the most recent donors to scholarships is the Canto-Matthews family. Melanie Canto, ’94 and her husband, Renato, are passionate about underrepresented populations accessing higher education. Combined, Canto and her parents, Wayne and Julie Matthews, began eliminating financial barriers for students in Spring 2020.

Melanie Canto is Vice President of Business Transformations at Starbucks and a member of the College of Business and Economics’ advisory board. The Matthews live in Meridian, Idaho.

Development dollars allow CBE leadership to support college-specific programs and unique student experiences. In the past year, these funds have supported student travel for the Executive Shadow Program, the college’s own Networking Night and a stipend for Barker Trading Program and Davis Group students who visited Chicago and New York City, respectively.

MAKE A GIFT TODAY! uidaho.edu/giving/cbe
EXECUTIVE SHADOW PROGRAM

The Executive Shadow Program (ESP) is an experiential learning opportunity within the University of Idaho’s College of Business & Economics (CBE). Funding for the program is 100% reliant on philanthropic investment in CBE and covers all the student’s costs. The college believes these opportunities should be open to all students, regardless of financial capacity, who express a strong, qualified interest in representing the college and themselves.

CBE students are encouraged to apply to the program (regardless of discipline or grade level) and are ultimately selected by the CBE’s leadership team. If selected the students are asked to use a portion of their upcoming spring break to shadow executives and their respective teams at our partner organizations.

Upon returning to campus ESP students present their experiences back to the dean’s leadership team (Dean, Associate Dean, Department Heads, Director of Marketing, and Director of Development) which the CBE uses to evaluate their experiences as well as optimize the program for the upcoming cohort.

Dean Marc Chopin launched the program in the spring of 2018.

Past Executive Shadow Program partners have included:
- Micron – Boise, ID
- Kepler Group – Chicago, IL/NYC
- Fischers Technology – Boise, ID
- Starbucks – Seattle, WA
- Darios Investments – Spokane Valley, WA
- Idaho Forestry Group – Coeur d'Alene, ID

As this program grows CBE will be consistently looking to add host organizations to the list of potential ESP partners. If you are interested in participating in this highly impactful opportunity for CBE students, contact Brian Mitchell, Director of Development, at bdmitchell@uidaho.edu.
EXECUTIVE SHADOW PROGRAM –
March 16-20, 2020

VANDAL GIVING DAY –
April 7 and 8, 2020

CBE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING –
April 30-May 2, 2020
The college’s advisory board chair is now held by Captain Bob Urso. He is the Managing Director at Strategic Analytics Group, LLC. The position was previously held by Annette Elg, the Senior Vice President and CFO (retired) at JR Simplot Co.

IDAHO PITCH AND STARTUP VANDAL COMPETITION –
May 1, 2020

UPCOMING

SOCIAL MEDIA
Help market CBE by following us on social media AND sharing our content on your platforms. Let’s share the college’s story together!

LinkedIn: University of Idaho College of Business and Economics
Facebook: uidahocbe
Instagram: @uidahocbe

ABOVE: CAPTAIN BOB URSO and his wife, GAIL, being inducted into the 1889 Society. The society is comprised of alumni, friends, corporations, foundations and organizations whose cumulative giving totals $1,000,000 and more. From left to right: President Scott Green, Gail Urso, Captain Bob Urso and Andrew Emerson, Chairman of the University of Idaho Foundation.
It is U of I policy to prohibit and eliminate discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation and gender identity/expression, age, disability, or status as a Vietnam-era veteran. This policy applies to all programs, services, and facilities, and includes, but is not limited to, applications, admissions, access to programs and services, and employment.