

MCCLURE CENTER

JUNE 2020 NEWSLETTER



University of Idaho

McClure Center for
Public Policy Research

Dear Friends of the McClure Center,

Sustaining Senator McClure's legacy is at the core of the important work we do at the McClure Center. One of the strengths for which Senator McClure was most admired was his ability to thoughtfully build bipartisan partnerships to address some of Idaho's most pressing challenges.

Today, partnerships are the cornerstone of everything we do, from engaging students to conducting research to creating policy briefs. We are pleased to highlight some of our current partnerships in this newsletter.

Engaging Students in Public Policy

Martin-McClure Ambassadors

In May, the McClure Center welcomed (virtually) two Martin-McClure Ambassadors, who are exploring the intersection of international affairs and policy in local communities. The 2020 Ambassadors are Danielle Coleman and Nicolas Schofield.

Danielle, a senior majoring in International Studies and Spanish, co-edited the 2019 edition of the *Journal of the Martin Institute* and studied abroad in Spain during spring semester 2020. She is working with the Wassmuth Center for Human Rights, studying the economic impact of educating girls in Mozambique.

Nicolas, a 4.0 GPA senior with majors in International Studies and History, was the University of Idaho candidate for the Truman Scholars program and interned and studied abroad in Germany during summer and fall semester 2019. He is working with the McClure Center, conducting research for and authoring a new version of *Idaho at a Glance: Refugees*.

The Martin-McClure Ambassador program is a partnership between the University of Idaho [Martin Institute](#) and the McClure Center.



Danielle Coleman, 2020 Martin-McClure Ambassador



Nicolas Schofield, 2020 Martin-McClure Ambassador

Legal Extern

In May, the McClure Center welcomed University of Idaho College of Law student Allison Olson, who is supporting the **Governor's Salmon Workgroup** through a partnership between the **Governor's Office of Species Conservation (OSC)** and the McClure Center.



Allison Olson, Legal Extern

Her portfolio also includes supporting legal aspects of OSC's work and the Idaho Science & Technology Policy Fellowship (ISTPF) program. Allison is entering her second year of law school and holds a B.A. in Environmental Studies and Spanish from Boise State University.

Conducting Nonpartisan Research and Informing Public Dialogue and Policy

New Postdoctoral Fellow

This month, the McClure Center welcomed postdoctoral fellow Dr. Megan Foster. Dr. Foster just completed her doctorate in geography at the University of California-Davis. She holds a M.S. in community development from UC-Davis and a bachelor's in environmental studies and planning from Sonoma State University.



Dr. Megan Foster, McClure Center Postdoctoral Fellow

Her postdoctoral fellowship will be focused on the **Idaho Climate-Economy Impacts Assessment** and she will be based in Idaho Falls. Please join us in welcoming Megan to the McClure Center!

Early Childhood Education Federal Award

The McClure Center is thrilled to participate in Idaho's \$3.3M Preschool Development Grant Birth through Five (PDG B-5), funded by the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Child Care and the U.S. Dept. of Education. The project is led by the **Idaho Association for the Education of Young Children (IdAEYC)**, which is partnering with many local and statewide organizations and agencies to accomplish this important work. Partners include Idaho Children's Trust Fund, Idaho Commission for Libraries, Idaho Department of Health and Welfare, Idaho Education Association, Idaho Public Television, Idaho State Board of Education, IdahoSTARS, Lee Pesky Learning Center, Tribal governments, Head Start and more.

The McClure Center will play key roles in this major federal award. Specifically, we are conducting a statewide needs assessment, including gathering information from town halls and focus groups, to help policymakers, administrators and stakeholders learn more about Idaho's early childhood education system. Later in the year, the McClure Center will draft a strategic plan that charts a path toward well-coordinated, high-quality programs and services for all children and families.

All McClure Center staff are involved in these activities, and we are excited to include University of Idaho students on the research team. Students will contribute to research and town hall and focus group planning to support project goals and objectives.

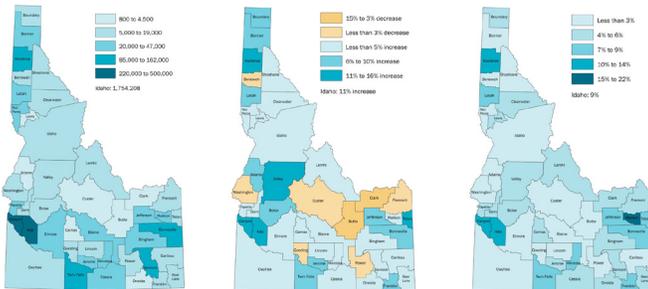


Idaho at a Glance: Housing Insecurity

In late 2018, a diverse group of organizations approached the McClure Center with their thoughts and concerns about housing issues in the Treasure Valley and Idaho. This conversation evolved into partnerships that resulted in the McClure Center's latest policy brief, **Idaho at a Glance: Housing Insecurity**, published in April 2020.

Idaho at a Glance: Housing Insecurity explores some of the key terms, metrics and indicators that describe housing insecurity and provides an overview of affordable housing. In addition to the two-page document, for the first time, *Idaho at a Glance* includes **supplemental online content** that offers more information on the metrics and indicators for understanding the health of a housing community. These online resources include county-by-county maps that explore metrics such as wage increases over time, housing increases over time, median housing costs, population change and more.

Growth



We would like to thank Boise Regional Realtors, Idaho Housing and Finance Association, Idaho Realtors, United Way of Treasure Valley, Windermere Real Estate Professionals, engaged community members, our external reviewers and the McClure Center advisory board for supporting this *Idaho at a Glance*.

Idaho Science & Technology Policy Fellowship (ISTPF) Announces First Call for Fellows, Secures Funding

Thanks to nearly \$300K in support from the **Chan Zuckerberg Initiative, Center for Advanced Energy Studies (CAES)** via **Idaho National Laboratory** and individual contributions, this spring, the ISTPF extended its first call for applicants. The inaugural fellowship class will be announced soon on the **ISTPF website** and **ISTPF twitter**.

The ISTPF is a new, nonpartisan program that connects science, social science and engineering with policy. Hosted through a partnership among Boise State University, Idaho State University and the University of Idaho, the fellowship places Idaho scientists, social scientists and engineers in Idaho state agencies for a year of hands-on service and training. ISTPF fellows will address challenges facing Idaho such as water, energy, fire, public health and economic development. We are thrilled to serve as the lead ISTPF partner.

The fellowship program is similar to a program started nearly 50 years ago by the **American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS)**, which places scientists and engineers in fellowships to support Congress, executive branch agencies and the judiciary.

The **California Council on Science and Technology** in partnership with the **Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation** and the **Simons Foundation** provided startup funding for the ISTPF. Idaho is one of 21 states developing a science policy fellowship program at the state government level.

In the Media

We are pleased to feature recent press on this new section of the **McClure Center's website**.

Spring highlights include:

- ***Idaho Receives Federal Preschool Education Grant (9 Jan. 2020)***: Idaho Association for the Education of Young Children has been awarded \$3.5 million to assess and address early learning programs in Idaho. The McClure Center will be a main partner in that process.

[Learn more>>](#)

- ***McClure Center Director Named to National Roundtable (19 May 2020)***: Dr. Katherine Himes, McClure Center Director, is serving on the U.S. National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine (NAEM) Roundtable on Global Science Diplomacy.

[Learn more>>](#)

- ***Government Writers: University Students Make a Statewide Impact (24 April 2020)***: JAMM-McClure Legislative Interns describe their work and experiences during the 2020 legislative session (video).

[Learn more>>](#)

We encourage you to peruse this page and follow us on



McClure Center Capital Campaign

The McClure Center is in the midst of an ambitious \$3M capital campaign and has raised nearly \$1.3M to date. This is the result of contributions from many individuals, corporations, non-profit organizations, as well as grants and contracts.

We want to highlight the impact of two of our most dedicated donors, Nancy and Phil Reberger. Both proud Vandals, they enthusiastically support McClure Center undergraduate student programs, including the JAMM-McClure Legislative Internship, McClure Research Scholars, Martin-McClure Ambassadorship, student travel to Washington, D.C. and the new Tod Neuenschwander Endowment.



Nancy and Phil Reberger

By funding these programs, the Rebergers sponsor life-changing programs that prepare students to be problem solvers and engaged leaders. We love providing students with the transformative experiences that come with these opportunities and couldn't be more grateful to Nancy and Phil for their support.

"Senator Jim McClure epitomized thoughtful and reasoned statesmanship," said the Rebergers. "It is a privilege to support promising future Idaho leaders by perpetuating the McClure legacy of distinguished public service."

Nancy and Phil value the McClure Center's applied research and learning opportunities for University of Idaho undergraduates. **Phil** also serves on the McClure Center advisory board and was chair for many years.

Thank you so much, Nancy and Phil!

We encourage you to support the McClure Center. Your gift not only makes a difference, it makes a significant, lasting impact by preserving Senator McClure's legacy of working across the aisle. Your gift champions the McClure approach to problem solving and decision making.

To donate, visit the [McClure Center's website](#) or contact me at 208-364-4549.

Warmest wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Katherine".

*Katherine Himes, Ph.D.
Director, James A. and Louise McClure Center for Public Policy Research*



Captain Reberger and Senator McClure in 1977, discussing Phil's move to Idaho to set up the Senator's first reelection campaign

Based in Boise, the University of Idaho's James A. and Louise McClure Center for Public Policy Research conducts nonpartisan public policy research, informs public dialogue and policy and engages students in learning about public policymaking. The Center's approach to addressing society's complex issues sustains Senator McClure's legacy of thoughtfully pursuing bipartisan collaboration and sound public policy.