McClure Center – June Newsletter

Greetings,

The James A. and Louise McClure Center for Public Policy Research is pleased to share a sampling of spring activities with you. Our work has focused on advancing the McClure Center mission by conducting nonpartisan research, informing public dialogue and policy and engaging students in learning about public policy making.

To learn more about the McClure Center, we invite you to read our new strategic plan. The strategic plan outlines ambitious goals in the areas of research, outreach, student engagement and diversity based on a comprehensive consultative process. This inspiring roadmap will act as our compass for the next three years.

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Research

At the request of the Idaho State Department of Education, the McClure Center has been funded to research Idaho’s English Learner, Migrant Education and Title III Consortium programs. For each program, the McClure Center is exploring topics related to enrollment, assessment, attainment, the go-on rate and funding. The results of this work will be released in several Idaho at a Glance publications in late summer and early autumn. Targeted audiences include: English Learner and Migrant education staff, educators, administrators, parents, legislators and community members. The publications will be used to provide evidence-based information at agency meetings and trainings and for public outreach.

In April, the McClure Center released its latest publication, Idaho at a Glance: Family Forest Ownership. Authors Dr. Dennis Becker, University of Idaho College of Natural Resources interim dean and Policy Analysis Group (PAG) director, and Philip Cook, PAG principal researcher, summarized how owners manage their forests, which is of interest to decision makers and the public. Approximately 1.7 million acres of forest land in Idaho is family owned, representing 56% of privately owned forest land in the state. The publication is based on a survey conducted by the PAG in 2016 and funded by the Idaho
Department of Lands, University of Idaho Extension and McClure Center. Learn more about related demographics, land management, landowner plans and more by reading this Idaho at a Glance.

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**Student Engagement**

In June, through a partnership with the University of Idaho Martin Institute, the McClure Center welcomed the 2018 Martin-McClure Ambassadors, University of Idaho seniors Estefania Cervantes and Liz Daniel. The McClure Center hosts Martin-McClure Ambassadors as they integrate international experiences and public policy. Ambassadors have researched geographic indicators, health care and refugees in Idaho, the Idaho Futures Initiative, medical workers abroad and refugee community gardens and economic development, resulting in Idaho at a Glance: Health Care and Refugees (2014) and Idaho at a Glance: Refugees in Idaho (2016), among other products.

![Estefania Cervantes, 2018 Martin-McClure Ambassador](image1)

![Liz Daniel, 2018 Martin-McClure Ambassador](image2)

While covering the Idaho Legislative Session, the 2018 University of Idaho School of Journalism and Mass Media (JAMM)-McClure Legislative Interns published a record number of articles in newspapers across the state, including the Bonner County Daily Bee, Coeur d’Alene Press, Idaho County Free Press, Idaho Press, Owyhee Avalanche and Power County Press. Congratulations to University of
Idaho junior Kyle Pfannenstiel and University of Idaho senior Nina Rydalch.

Outreach

In 2018, the McClure Center launched a new speaker series designed to engage Idahoans in learning about current policy, engaging in conversation with decision-makers and understanding more about topics important to Idaho and the region, nation and world.

- **Policy Pub: Public Lands (May 3)** showcased former Bureau of Lands Management state director Tim Murphy, University of Idaho professor and Policy Analysis Group director Dr. Dennis Becker and Boise State University distinguished professor and Andrus Center director John Freemuth.
- **Policy Pub: The Bench (March 20)** featured Idaho Supreme Court Chief Justice Roger S. Burdick, Idaho Supreme Court Justice Robyn Brody and 4th District Judge Nancy Baskin of Boise.

The University of Idaho Policy Analysis Group hosted Policy Pub in Moscow, and showcased the Idaho Local Government Initiative (April 26) and the Policy Analysis Group (February 14). The series resumes in both locations this autumn.
The McClure Center has joined the University Network for Collaborative Governance. This spring, Director Katherine Himes attended the UNCG national meeting, and was invited to deliver a talk on climate and economy policy specific to Idaho and the Intermountain West during their summer work session in August.

In April, the McClure Center enjoyed a week of “outreach” on the main University of Idaho campus. Director Katherine Himes delivered a professional development workshop to graduate students and postdoctoral fellows: “Closing the communications gap between science and policy.” Former JAMM-McClure Legislative Interns Nishant Mohan, Taylor Nadauld, Kyle Pfannenstiel, Chloe Rambo and Nina Rydalch participated in the Pundits Forum, moderated by Katherine Himes. This unique session targeted to JAMM undergraduate students, faculty and the public revealed challenges and insights that are part of covering the legislature. You can view the forum on YouTube.

Thank you for your continued support of the McClure Center for Public Policy Research. Your financial support is appreciated and makes a significant and lasting impact. Please consider a gift in 2018. If you have any questions, contact Director Katherine Himes, 208-364-4549.

Warmest regards,
The James A. and Louise McClure Center for Public Policy Research