

McClure Center – March Newsletter

Greetings,

The past few months at the James A. and Louise McClure Center for Public Policy Research have been rich with activity. We are thrilled to share the following highlights with you.

Research

To prepare for the McClure Gallery opening in February, staff worked closely with the University of Idaho Library Special Collections, Idaho State Historical Society and National Archives, curating the inaugural exhibit on the McClures. Going forward, exhibits will be researched and designed by a University of Idaho undergraduate student.

The McClure Center and Boise State University Idaho Policy Institute partnered on a project to analyze the economic impacts of small modular nuclear reactors (SMR) proposed for construction and operation in eastern Idaho. Faculty from both universities are part of the research team. Results will be published in late spring to early summer.

In other research news, the McClure Center is convening a group of researchers, who will study the impact of Idaho's changing climate on the economy. A report will cover major sectors, such as agriculture, health, land, tourism and water, and will focus on opportunities and resources for businesses and decision-makers.

Student Engagement

In January, through a partnership with the School of Journalism and Mass Media, the McClure Center welcomed the 2018 Legislative Interns, University of Idaho sophomore Kyle Pfannenstiel and University of Idaho junior Nina Rydalch. The McClure Center hosts Legislative Interns as they cover the Idaho Legislative Session for

Idaho Public Radio (Moscow) and many newspapers across the state, including the Bonner County Daily Bee, Coeur d'Alene Press, Idaho County Free Press, Owyhee Avalanche and Power County Press. For the first time, this year's Legislative Interns wrote articles for an Associated Press newspaper, the Idaho Press-Tribune.



Legislative Intern Nina Rydalch



Legislative Intern Kyle Pfannenstiel

Outreach

The McClure Center staff have been presenting research at international meetings and attending national conferences. In February, Director Katherine Himes delivered a talk showcasing research on climate and economic policy specific to Idaho and the American West at the American Association for the Advancement of Science Annual Meeting, held this year in Austin, Texas. This month, Crystal Callahan attended a policy research conference in Washington, D.C.



Director Katherine Himes

Community Connections

The McClure Center has launched a new bi-monthly speaker series designed to engage Idahoans in the Treasure Valley. Policy Pub is a unique opportunity for the public to learn about current policy, engage in conversation with decision-makers, and understand more about topics important to Idaho and the region, nation and world. 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. Policy Pub: Women in Policy (January 22) included speakers Sen. Cherie Buckner-Webb, D-Boise; Rep. Caroline Nilsson Troy, R-Genesee and Rep. Ilana Rubel, D-Boise. The University of Idaho Policy Analysis Group hosts a bi-monthly Policy Pub in Moscow on alternate months (February 14, Policy Analysis Group; April 12, Idaho Local Government Initiative).

The McClure Center co-sponsored the Boise State University's Andrus Center annual **education lecture**: What Does Quality Early Education Look Like? The event, held February 12, featured Dr. Steven Barnett from Rutgers University, and built on previous partnerships between the University of Idaho and Boise State University.

Thank you for your continued support of the McClure Center for Public Policy Research. Your financial support is appreciated and makes a significant, lasting impact. Please consider a gift in 2018. If you have any questions, please talk with Director Katherine Himes, 208.364.4549

[MAKE A GIFT](#)

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

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 policy dialogue 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.