2018 Year-End Letter

Dear Friend of the McClure Center,

When asked why he put his hat in the ring for the 1966 U.S. House of Representatives election, Senator Jim McClure said: “There is an opportunity here this time…Will I sometime later in life look back and say, ‘gee, I wish I would have done that?’ So, I decided to try. There was an opening; an opportunity.”

Jim and Louise packed the family in the 1965 Chrysler New Yorker station wagon and moved to Washington, D.C. The new Congressman also brought his Idaho-grown principles to Capitol Hill:

- Attention to detail and tireless exploration of public policy implications.
- Thoughtful pursuit and promotion of bipartisan collaboration for enactment and execution of sound public policy.
- Evidence and research as the basis to inform public policy decisions.

In 1991, after three terms as U.S. Representative and three terms as U.S. Senator and committee chair, Senator McClure brought these principles back to Idaho and trusted the University of Idaho to espouse these values in perpetuity. These core tenets form the foundation for the James A. and Louise McClure Center for Public Policy Research. For ten years, the McClure Center has conducted nonpartisan research, informed public dialogue and policy and engaged students in learning about public policy making with a focus on critical issues facing the state, region, nation and world — with impressive results and impact.

Jim McClure recognized a rare opportunity. So too has the McClure Center. The McClure Center is built on an exceptional foundation, and its unique and deliberate strategy included thought leadership from
university presidents, former Congressmen and business leaders. In order to fully realize our true potential, **the McClure Center is launching an ambitious $3 million capital campaign.** We are on the move and ask for your support.

Your gift will allow us to:

- Quadruple **offerings to students** from middle school through law studies,
- Double the number of Idaho at a Glance **policy briefs**,
- Triple the McClure Center’s **research programs and staff**,
- Launch a **collaborative governance training program** for federal and state agency leaders, and
- Re-launch the **public forums and host quarterly policy focused events**.

Now is the time to ensure the McClure Center continues to serve as a **shining beacon of public policy research at the University of Idaho**. Now is the time to champion Senator McClure’s lasting legacy of working across the aisle. Now is the time to affirm that the **McClure approach to problem solving and decision making** persist long into the future.

Wishing you the best this holiday season,

Katherine E. Himes, Ph.D.
Director