

# McClure Center

## March 2025 Newsletter



University of Idaho

McClure Center for  
Public Policy Research

### PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR IDAHO'S FUTURE LEADERS

Honoring Senator and Louise McClure's legacy, the McClure Center for Public Policy Research proudly offers dynamic, high-level, applied learning programs for undergraduate and graduate students at the University of Idaho. These programs provide invaluable, firsthand exposure to public policy analysis, design, and implementation, across multiple levels of government. Throughout their semester-long experience, students engage directly with policy makers, gain practical insights into policy making processes, and develop skills needed to become future leaders in public service.

**Vandal Giving Day 2024 was a record-breaking success, raising over \$1.1 million to support University of Idaho student programs!**

The McClure Center for Public Policy Research received **\$3,480 from 22 generous gifts**, directly supporting students in both undergraduate and graduate programs. These contributions provide invaluable opportunities for hand-on learning and professional growth.

In 2025, we aim to raise even more to **support undergraduate interns** who spend a semester in Boise immersed in public policy, the state legislature, and local communities. Students travel from Moscow to spend a full semester in Boise. Funds provide support for housing and professional wardrobes and help interns attend professional development events.

These experiences equip students with essential skills, preparing them for future careers and leadership roles in Idaho and beyond.

**Together, we can invest in the next generation of Idaho's leaders - let's make Vandal Giving Day 2025 the most impactful year yet!**

**Join us, April 1-2, in supporting our undergraduate programs in Boise!**



### OUR FOCUS FOR VANDAL GIVING DAY 2025

- **Journalism and Mass Media (JAMM)-McClure Legislative Internship:** Vandal undergraduate students report on the legislative session as full members of the Idaho Press Club. The McClure Center partners with rural newspapers across the state that publish legislative session articles written by these interns.
- **Governmental Relations Internship:** U of I undergraduates work as legislative session research aides, covering the legislative session and other State Capitol events, working alongside the U of I Office of Governmental Relations.
- **Martin-McClure Student Ambassadorship:** Offered every summer, Vandal undergraduates explore a topic at the intersection of international affairs and policy.



2025 JAMM-McClure Legislative Intern Michael Paz and Government Relations Interns Alma Azócar Agurto and Kael Wilkins

Every year the McClure Center hosts undergraduate students in Boise. Our legislative interns relocate from Moscow, arriving just before the Governor's State of the State Address and staying until Sine Die. They work at the tempo of the legislative session, putting in long hours as Idaho policy is made.

## STRAIGHT FROM THE SOURCE

*"Working at the McClure Center has given me the opportunity to fully observe the inner workings of the legislative process. This experience has provided invaluable insights into the decision-making framework and social factors that drive everyday policy decisions."*

- Kael Wilkins, Government Relations Intern 2025

*"Serving as a JAMM-McClure Legislative Intern was the best decision of my academic career. Every day I learned something new about the legislative process and was exposed to so many different opportunities. The internship pushed me out of my comfort zone to significantly improve my writing skills, interpersonal communication, and self-confidence. I will never forget that semester in the Statehouse and the experiences that prepared me to make a meaningful impact throughout my career."*

- Sophie Spanbauer, JAMM-McClure Legislative Intern 2024

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## Upcoming Event 4/15 + 4/16: A Hells Canyon Retrospective

More information can be found [HERE](#) or by scanning the QR code:



Warmest wishes,

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

Katherine E. Himes, Ph.D.

Director, James A. and Louise McClure Center for Public Policy Research

More about ways to [give to the McClure Center](#) or connect with us on LinkedIn



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Based in Boise, the [University of Idaho's James A. and Louise McClure Center for Public Policy Research](#) conducts evidence-based research, informs public dialogue and policy, facilitates collaborations and engages students in learning about public policy making. The Center's approach to addressing society's complex issues sustains Senator and Louise McClure's legacy of thoughtfully pursuing bipartisan collaboration and sound public policy.

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