



TO: University of Idaho Faculty, Staff and Students

FROM: Cher Hendricks, Vice Provost for Academic Initiatives
Ginger Carney, Dean, College of Science

DATE: February 6, 2018

SUBJECT: Announcing the 2018 Vandal Ideas Project

The University of Idaho is excited to begin moving forward on the next round of the Vandal Ideas Project (VIP).

President Chuck Staben and Provost and Executive Vice President John Wiencek have charged us with leading this year's effort, which focuses on our "Transform" goal to increase U of I's educational impact.

The **2017 VIP: Engage** projects emphasized work to increase the number of Idaho students who attend college. This year, **VIP: Transform** will support those students who are already in college by focusing on ways to help our students succeed and graduate.

We want our VIP: Transform projects to tackle innovative ways to improve the college experience for our students. Over the next few months, we will be hosting informational and discussion sessions and a Student Success Conference to help our faculty, staff and students identify potential projects.

At these events, we will share data that can inform project development and provide a forum for sharing ideas and best practices. We hope these opportunities will foster collaboration across colleges, departments and units — as well as among faculty, students, and staff — and that these collaborations will lead to transformative and sustainable Vandal Ideas Projects.

The VIP: Transform seed grant request for proposals will be posted after we've had a chance as institution to discuss the scope and focus of the initiative. Teams will spend the summer and early fall perfecting their ideas, with proposals due in fall semester. Awards will be announced in late fall 2018, with plans being implemented in spring 2019.

In the meantime, we encourage you to take part in the Student Success Conference and informational sessions. More information about these events will be announced via email and in The Daily Register.

Thank you all for your hard work and continued support of the Vandal Ideas Project. We can't wait to see how this next round of projects will transform our Vandal community!

Cher Hendricks

Vice Provost, Academic Initiatives

Ginger Carney

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www.uidaho.edu/vandalideas
