

WORLD CLASS IDAHO FOCUSED

ANNUAL REPORT | APRIL 2023



NO. 1
BEST VALUE
Public University
in the **West**



University
of Idaho



WORLD CLASS

IDAHO FOCUSED

The University of Idaho delivers an unprecedented educational value for students and innovative research that fuels our state's economy.

It is our mission to build on our rich traditions of access and outreach as Idaho's land grant institution. We educate Idaho's future leaders and disseminate our research to support residents in each of the state's 44 counties.

Our 2023 annual report, "World Class, Idaho Focused" includes countless examples of how the U of I advances its mission throughout the state. This report includes the progress made on our institutional strategic plan, highlighted by our successful accreditation review last spring. It also emphasizes our institutional pillars of supporting student success, prioritizing research and telling our story. In addition, this report establishes baselines related to the State Board of Education's new strategic plan.

The following pages feature just a handful of highlights from a banner year for the University of Idaho. From a record-setting freshman class, to research breakthroughs to new fundraising milestones, the U of I continues to build positive momentum. Our enrollment growth fuels our financial stability and investments in strategic priorities are beginning to produce big wins.

As students discover our immense value, our employees support Idaho industries and communities. The U of I truly is world class and Idaho focused.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "C. Scott Green". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

President Scott Green



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student GEMS



20 NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARS

in 2022 freshman class and
61 total enrolled



2,525 DEGREES and CERTIFICATES

awarded in 2021-22



STATE- BEST 6-YEAR

Graduation rate increased from

59% to 61%



Overall enrollment
INCREASE
 of about **3%** in 2022



U of I grads earn the
TOP STARTING SALARIES
 in Idaho



More than
\$900K
 in scholarships for
cybersecurity students



OVER HALF
 of U of I undergraduates
 participate in
RESEARCH,
 highest in
 the state





MISSION FULFILLMENT

In 2019, leadership took a fresh look at the university's progress on the 10-year strategic plan (2016-2025) and its strength to drive mission fulfillment. Facing a budget deficit and enrollment challenges, the university created a sustainable financial model to guide future university decisions. The result was the Vandal Hybrid Financial Model, developed using four guiding principles:

- Mission alignment,
- Transparency,
- Agility and adaptability and
- Incentive based.

The model drives our successful financial stability and future program development.

The Vandal Hybrid Finance Model has elements of program prioritization built into it that inform decisions about how to spend new revenues. We continue to use the model to reallocate current year funds and award new revenues based on the guiding principles above. As part of our last Academic Program Prioritization effort, the decision was made to close several programs. While we have had no new significant program prioritization activity to report since April 2022, we will officially close the Materials Science program in Spring 2023. There are two remaining undergraduates, one master's level and one doctoral student who all plan to graduate. The final faculty member's contract ends this semester.

With the disruption of the status quo and a new president, three strategic initiatives or pillars were identified in 2020 as the foundation for mission fulfillment:

1. Supporting student success,
2. Prioritizing research and
3. Telling the story of our institution.

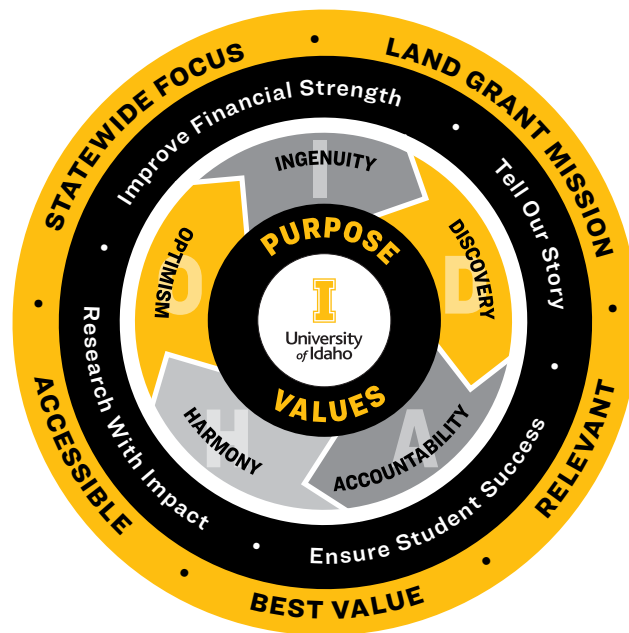
University leadership will continue to monitor and discuss strategic plan metrics. Progress is communicated annually, through the provost’s report to the State Board of Education.

Rather than making reactive changes to immediately create a new strategic plan, U of I has paused on further changes to strategic plan metrics to aggressively focus on strategic

initiatives, mission, students and collecting more consistent data. This strategy is working as evidenced by the recent accreditation renewal, as well as increases in enrollment and record-breaking scholarship support.

University leadership is committed to engaging more deeply with and learning from internal and external environments to identify targets that are better informed and aligned with the institution’s mission. Future strategic plan work will be grounded in lessons learned from past processes and demonstrated evidence of where University of Idaho will have the greatest impact going forward.

The Circle of Success shown in Figure 1 demonstrates how strategic initiatives support U of I’s mission and values.



This framework is supported by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities.

Figure 1: Circle of Success



ACCREDITATION RENEWAL

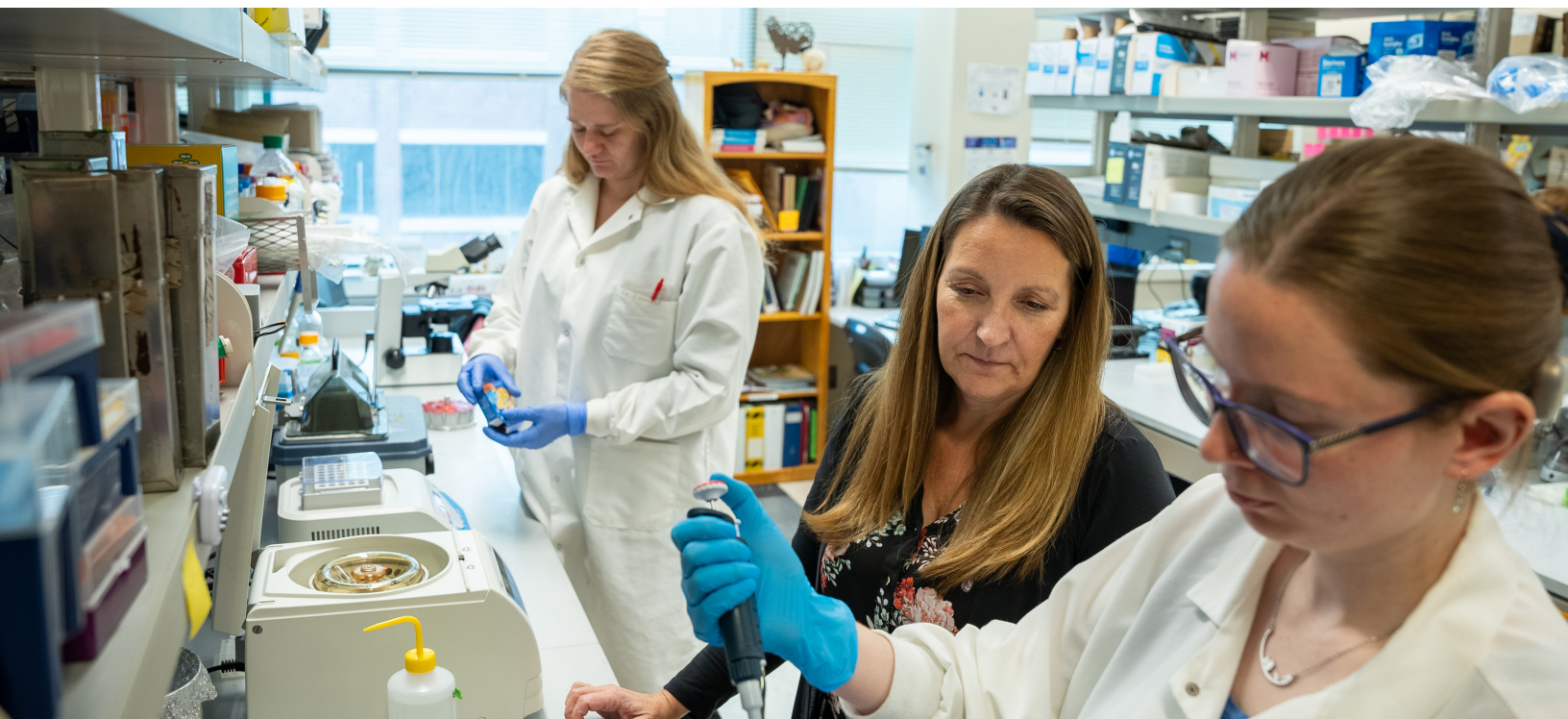
The U of I's accreditation was renewed in 2022 after undergoing the Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU). The Commission's Peer Evaluation Report included four **commendations** for:

- 1.** The commitment and passion that with employees have for University of Idaho. Evaluators recognized the enthusiastic esprit de corps of the university, with the word “family” used many times.
- 2.** Leadership of the president and provost, and their teams, for significantly improving the financial situation of the university and focusing the institution on key strategic priorities. In general, evaluators noted a sense of optimism about the future of the institution, and trust in leadership to seek broad input on decisions.
- 3.** Increased transparency and accessibility of actionable data to inform decision-making.
- 4.** Its Student Success Team and University Advising Services support of U of I students. These groups have implemented several initiatives to add value for students. Some examples include adding additional advising positions, increasing interaction with students, accommodating student preferences for advisor appointments, developing advisor training, and conducting data-informed student outreach.

The Commission did not highlight any areas out of compliance. The group issued five **recommendations** for areas “Substantially in Compliance but in Need of Improvement.” They are:

1. Use the results of program and general education assessments to inform academic and learning-support planning and practices to continuously improve student learning outcomes.
2. Widely share within the institution indicators of student achievement, including but not limited to persistence, completion, retention and postgraduation success, for the purpose of closing barriers to academic excellence and success (equity gaps).
3. Publish on the university’s website the disaggregated indicators of student achievement that are benchmarked against peer institutions.*
4. Ensure that there are clear policies for work assignments for faculty and staff, that they are applied consistently at the unit level, and that faculty and staff have a clear understanding of their work assignments and how those are reflected in evaluation criteria.
5. Evaluate current staffing levels for faculty and staff to ensure that the institution employs faculty and staff sufficient in role, number and qualifications to achieve its organizational responsibilities, educational objectives and academic policies, and ensure the integrity and continuity of its academic programs.

* U of I has already addressed Recommendation 3. Other recommendations will be addressed in an ad hoc report to NWCCU due in 2025.





STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AND POST-GRADUATION DATA

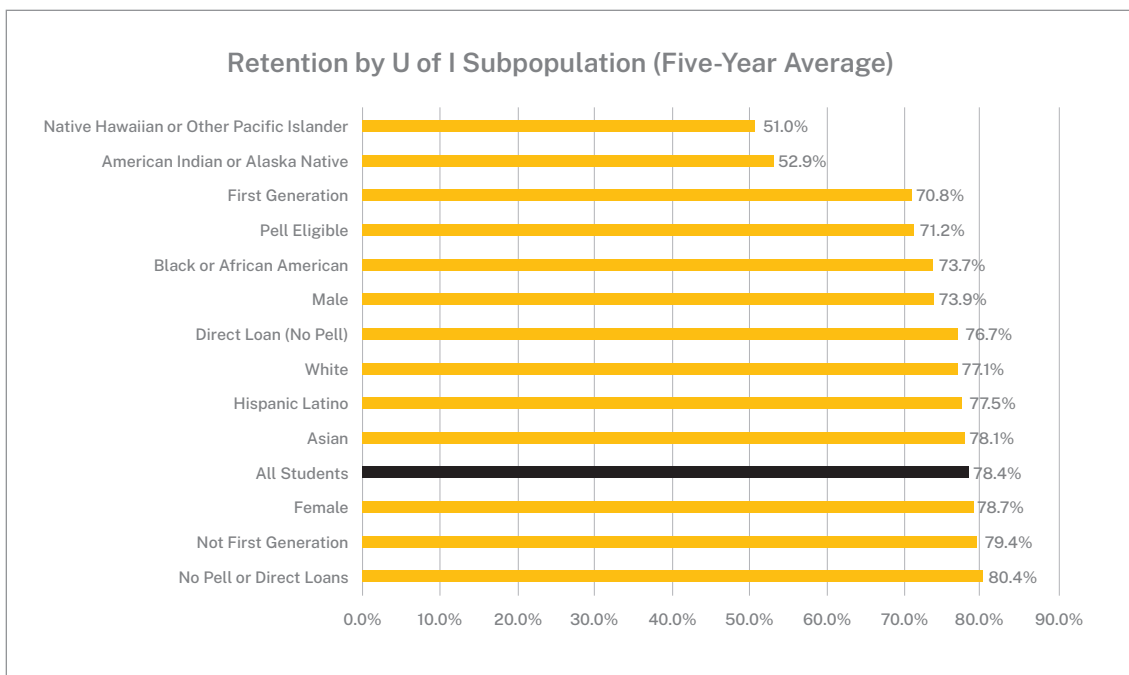
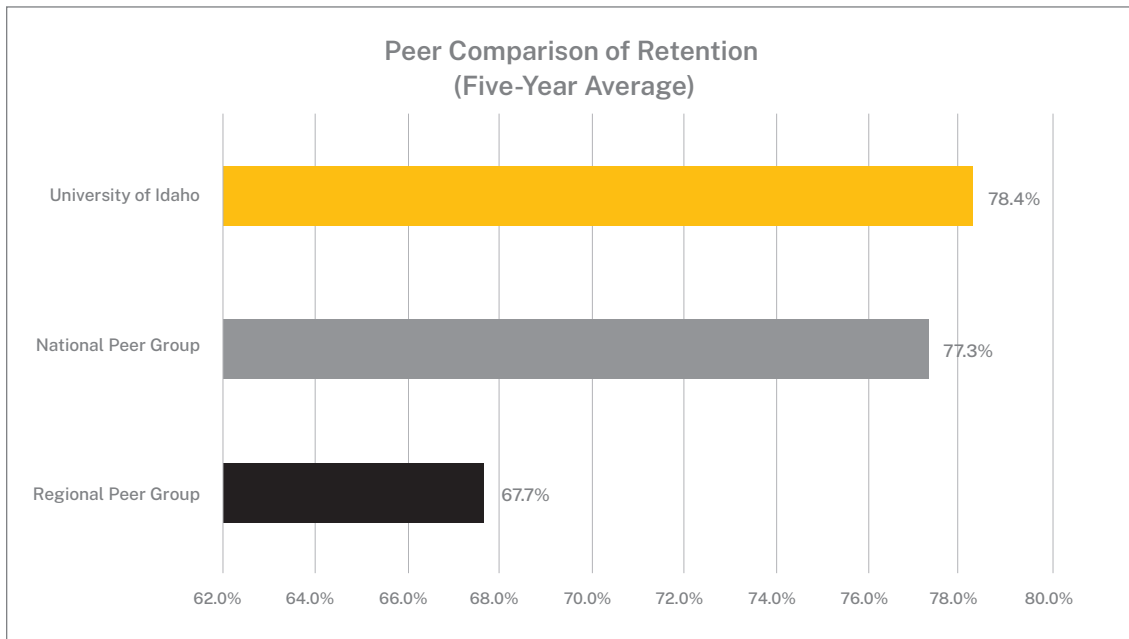
When considering student retention and persistence to graduation, we examine how a student is integrated into the campus community academically and socially. Among many tools U of I employs, warning indicators are placed in VandalStar by faculty when students

are struggling academically. This triggers wrap-around services including tutoring, writing center support or social support from resident advisors and others to give students the best opportunity to build their skills and graduate.

RETENTION

Retention is the percentage of first-year students that return to the same institution for the second year. Students who are not retained by the same institution may be enrolled at another institution.

Data Source: IPEDS, 2017 – 2021 (Five Year Averages)

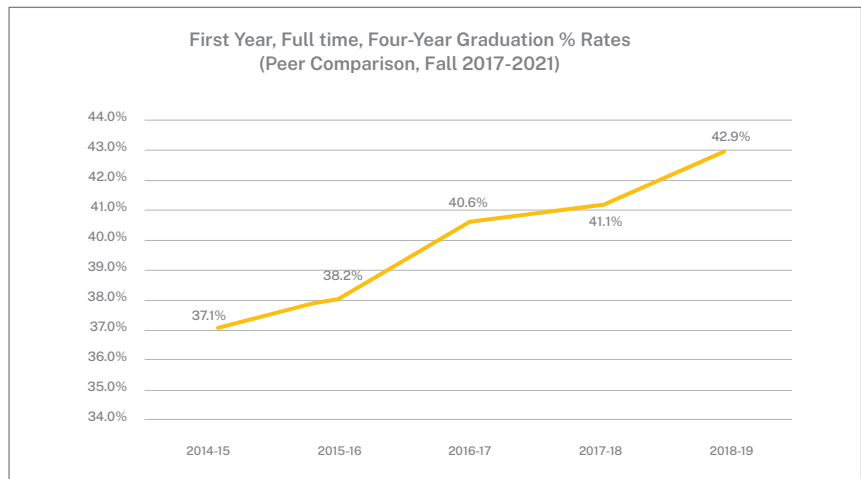
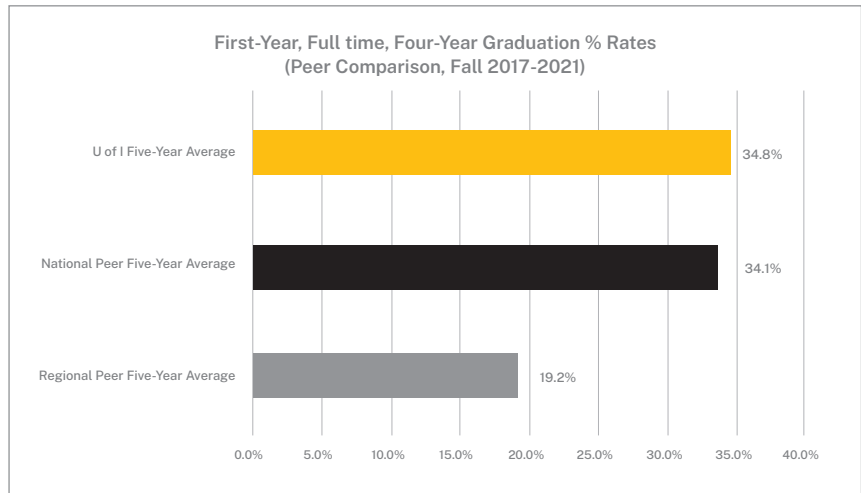
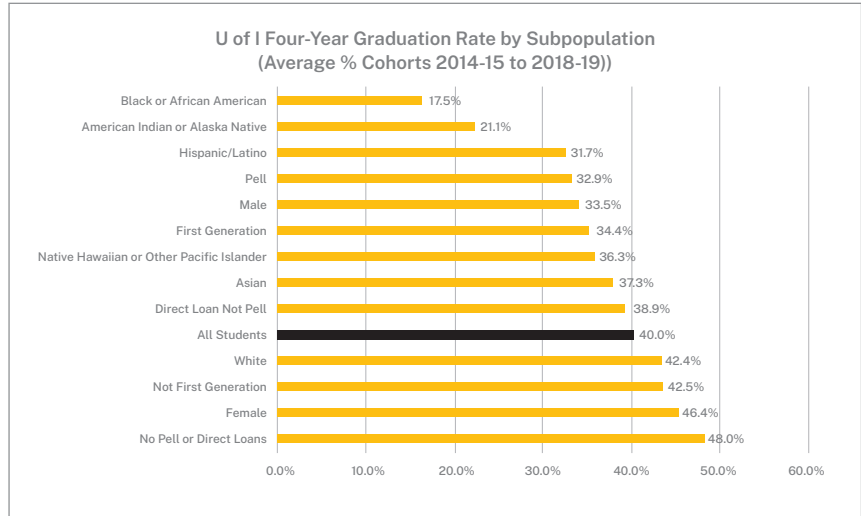


COMPLETION

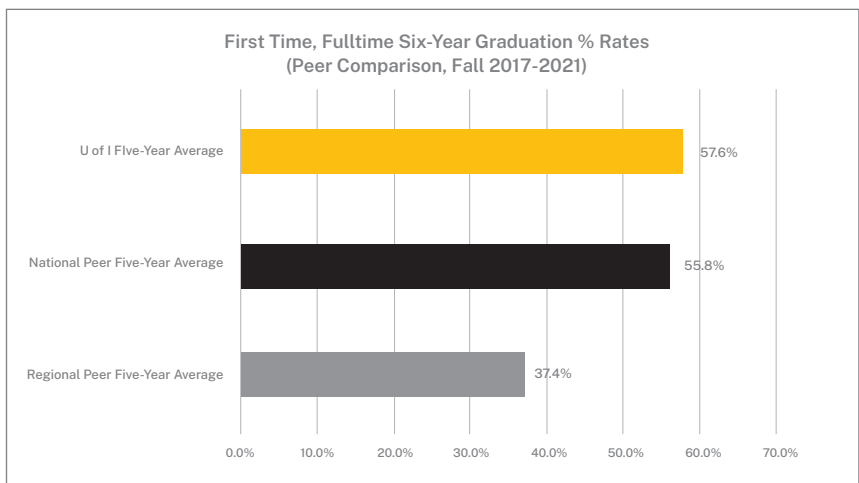
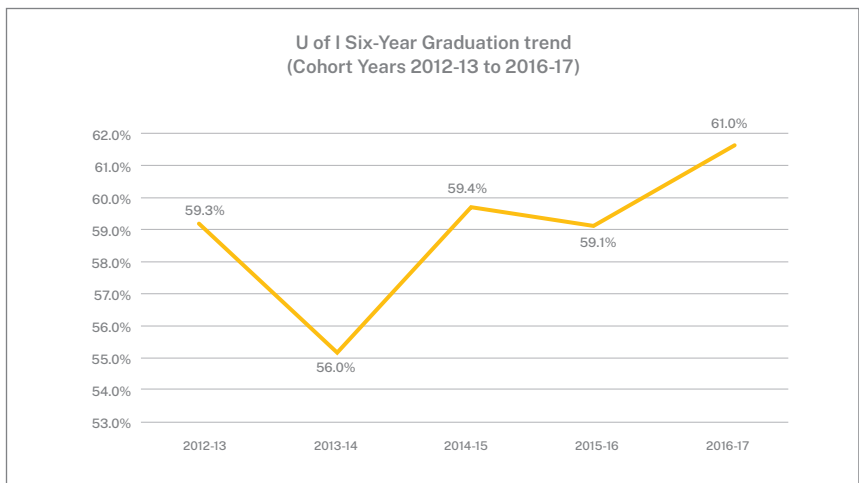
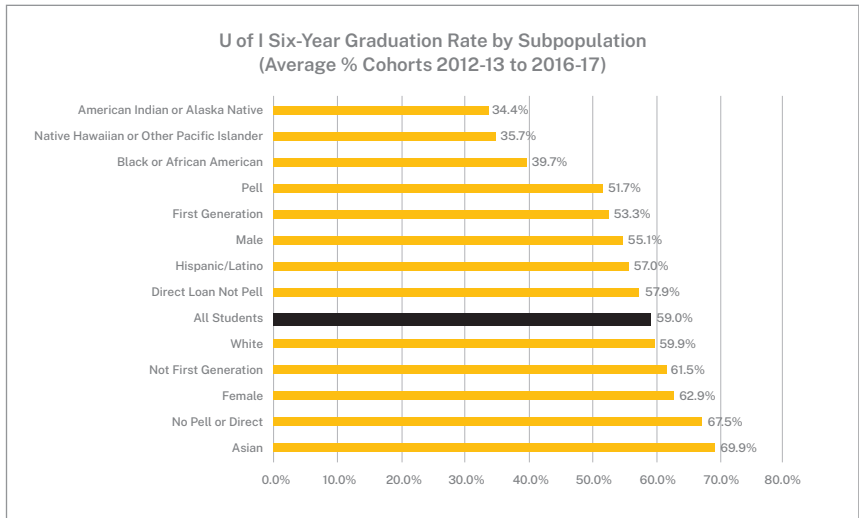
Four-Year Graduation Rates

Completion rates provide the percentages of students who graduate or complete their program within a specified timeframe.

Data Source: IPEDS



Six-Year Graduation Rates



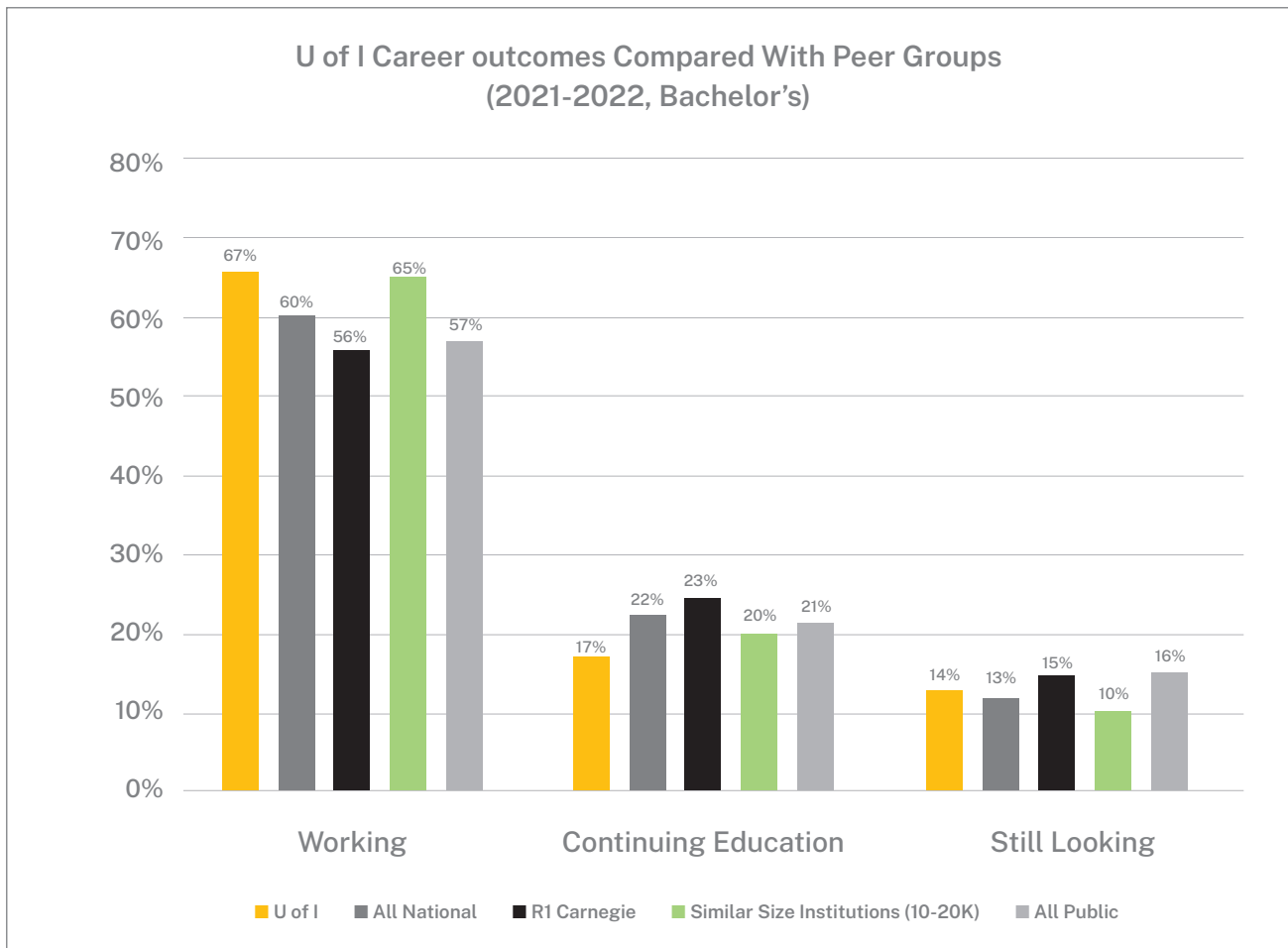
Overall, our retention and graduation rates are points of pride. It is important to identify students who may need different types of support to complete their degrees. U of I invests in the College Assistance Migrant Program (CAMP) and TRIO programs, as well as others, to support students who want additional services and to build community. In addition, we re-formed a state-wide Hispanic Advisory Council. Members serve as advisors and advocates for recruitment, retention and student onboarding programs to help all Hispanic students succeed. Other retention and graduation strategies are highlighted later in our Strategic Enrollment Plan.

POST-GRADUATE SUCCESS

Post-graduate success is measured by how well students fare in their careers within six-months of graduation. Data is collected from U of I graduates using NACE's First-Destination Survey by the Career Center. We track the percentage of students who are working (part or full-time), continuing their education (earning another degree such as a master's or doctorate), or are still looking for employment.

Recent graduates are sent the survey approximately five months after graduation from U of I.

More U of I graduates are working after graduation than their peers nationally. Fueling this success are frequent, large and successful career fair events, intertwined career objectives and classroom learning, and career counselors with strong ties to colleges and majors.



We have focused our efforts on programs that help students translate their education into practical workplace skills, make industry contacts and establish careers in their chosen fields. Some examples include:

CAPSTONE PROJECTS

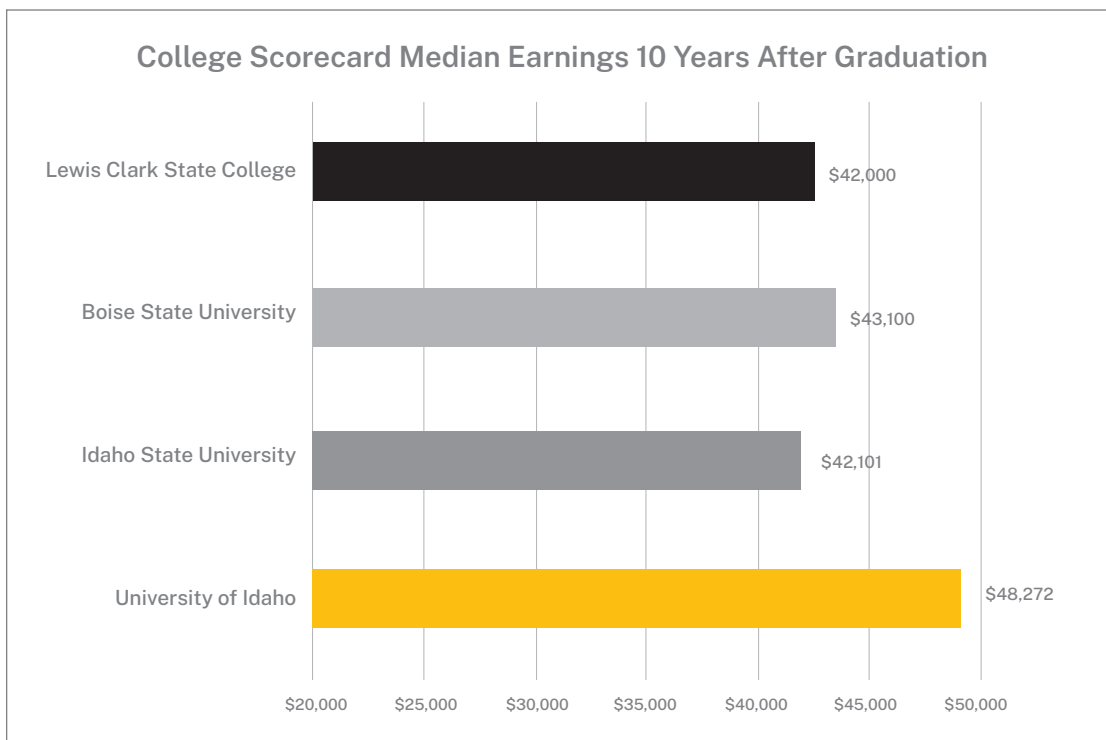
Most majors at U of I require students nearing the end of their college years to create a project that integrates and applies what they've learned to a real-world challenge. The project might be a research paper, a performance or a portfolio of "best work." These are increasingly tied to internships and other experiential learning to enhance their value and ensure students can translate their academic work into the real world. In many cases, professionals in industry serve as advisors and mentors for these projects.

CAREER FAIRS

Each year, U of I Career Services brings hundreds of employers to campus to network with, interview and hire U of I students and alumni. Signature events include career fairs held twice annually and a teacher career fair featuring education recruiters from the Pacific Northwest and beyond. In the spring of 2023, a record 175 of employers attended the Spring Career Fair.

INTERNSHIPS AND CO-OPS

Students gain real-world experience in their fields, crafting opportunities with their faculty mentors and college career advisors to support the connection between the theoretical and the practical. U of I is the only university in the Pacific Northwest with a co-op program that allows students to alternate between academic coursework and paid full-time employment that counts toward graduation requirements.





STRATEGIC ENROLLMENT PLAN (SEP)

The University of Idaho consulted with Ruffalo Noel Levitz in 2022 to formalize and implement the next Strategic Enrollment Plan (SEP). The SEP has resulted in the creation of task forces who are charged with the implementation of prioritized strategies to support student success.

THE SEP TASK FORCES ARE FOCUSED UPON:

- Financial Aid / Scholarship
- Integrated Recruitment / Communication
- Onboarding and Melt Reduction
- Retention
- Transfer Student Recruitment
- International Student Experience

Implementation of action items are linked to key performance indicators for **recruitment** and **retention/student success**. The recruitment goal is to increase the incoming freshmen class of 1) Idahoans, 2) Western Undergraduate Exchange and non-resident students and 3) international students using effective marketing and financial support strategies. Additionally, **transfer strategies** are being implemented to help with transfer from a community college to U of I.

To further enhance financial support for U of I students, the SEP includes a new scholarship program which includes **merit-based** and **need-based** scholarships. Additionally, there are new strategies to encourage and support more families to file a FAFSA which will further aid our Idahoans in making college accessible and affordable.

Student success is key to strategic enrollment management and the SEP addresses retention initiatives. **Strong academic advising is key** in supporting students in completion of their degree. University of Idaho's coordinated advising model offers professional and faculty advising and mentoring strategies to provide wrap around support to our students.

Our career advisors are located within each college to support our students and encourage them to participate in **career fairs, internships, experiential learning opportunities and high impact programs**.

Academic living and learning communities within our residence halls are coordinated with colleges to promote strong engagement of our students and better retention and degree progression. Faculty led and individual **study abroad opportunities** with scholarship support allow our students to experience academic topics while gaining global perspectives that employers are demanding.



TELLING OUR STORY

A BEST VALUE IN THE WEST

U.S. News & World Report named University of Idaho the Best Value Public University in the West among public colleges for a third straight year and remained second nationally behind University of North Carolina. The ranking recognizes the overall quality of the institution in relation to the cost of attendance and the level of need-based aid or scholarships offered. U of I was also ranked in the top 6% of all public universities on the Top Public Schools list, ahead of regional land grant peers in Montana, Washington, Nevada, Wyoming and Utah.



NO. 1
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in the West



A+ RATING FOR SCHOLARSHIP TRANSPARENCY

University of Idaho was the only school in the state recognized with an A+ rating in scholarship transparency by Universitybusiness.com. The rating is based on how well universities provide clear, easily accessible information about financial aid to ensure students and parents understand the net cost of a college education.



A RECORD NUMBER OF CAMPUS VISITS

Over the past two years, U of I has hosted more than 5,500 campus visitors with about 3,500 prospective students touring campus. Uldaho Bound and Meet the Vandals events are attracting large numbers of prospective students. Our Uldaho Bound events throughout the spring will draw well over 1,000 students to explore campus, register for classes and take part in orientation activities. As of March 1, our admissions were up 12% over the same time last year.



THE COLLEGE TOUR

U of I will be featured on Season Seven of the Amazon Prime series “The College Tour” in 2023. The video is currently available before Season Seven airs, and has already drawn thousands of views on YouTube in the first three months. When the episode is available via Amazon Prime, it will introduce thousands of viewers to University of Idaho and will be a valuable tool for recruiting.

U OF I'S RETURN ON INVESTMENT

The Bipartisan Policy Center determined that the average student’s return on investment at U of I is \$573,297. The BPC is dedicated to promoting policies that make education more affordable, accessible, effective and efficient. The Center used data from the U.S. Department of Education to determine its net return on investment figures.



STUDENT SUCCESS



Simon Nguy explored the world of investing at U of I through the Davis Investment Group. The program allows a team of students to manage a portfolio of \$900,000 in long-term investments, providing hands-on experience in the finance world. Nguy interned at Mountain West Bank in Coeur d'Alene and he plans on a career in finance.

As a 2021 Summer Undergraduate Research Fellow, senior **Grace Meyer** worked alongside U of I Professor Omi Hodwitz on the Guantanamo Recidivism Study and the Terrorist Recidivism Study, collecting demographics on people accused of terrorism who were held in military detention at Guantanamo Bay, and those convicted of terrorism in the U.S. court system. She helped compile data with the goal of answering a question: Which system is more effective at preventing recidivism? Were people held in one system more likely to commit another crime after being released than those held in the other?





Madalyn Asker

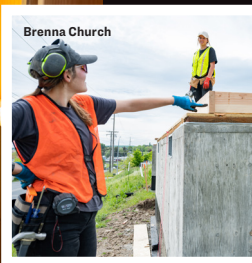
STUDENT SUCCESS CONT.



Sterling Jones



Amanda Eller



Brenna Church

U of I students often learn by taking on our state's toughest challenges. The affordable housing shortage is affecting communities throughout Idaho. Architecture students **Madalyn Asker, Brenna Church, Amanda Eller and Sterling Jones** helped design and build the first of several small houses in Lupine Flats, a planned community of six homes in Moscow. A partnership with the Moscow Affordable Housing Trust and a private construction firm enabled the students to gain invaluable experience on the job site while directly addressing the housing shortage. The first completed home was purchased last year, and the proceeds will go toward building more small houses in the coming years.

Senior **Keera Paull** spent last summer extracting and sequencing bacteriophage and bacterial DNA from honeybee samples collected in the Pacific Northwest. Her goal is to help protect bees from American foulbrood, a fatal honeybee disease caused by bacteria that kill bee larvae. Paull, who earned the Beverly Flowers Memorial Scholarship, helped researchers understand how microbes in a honeybee's environment contribute to bee health.





PRIORITIZING RESEARCH

University of Idaho drives Idaho industries and provides practical solutions to the world's toughest challenges. From agriculture to hydrology to forestry and education, U of I research delivers immense value by re-patriating federal dollars through grants that enrich our communities.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Last fall, faculty in the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences won a grant worth up to **\$55 million from the U.S. Department of Agriculture** to fund climate-smart agriculture research in our state. The grant will enable U of I to deploy much of its research to farm and ranch partners at scale to evaluate the return on investment of implementing practices like cover cropping and low water usage technologies. These tools hold the promise of improving water quality while using less water and helping sustain plant and soil health.

- A U of I-led research team earned a **\$6.8 million award from the USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture's Specialty Crop Research Initiative** to develop new diagnostic tools, management practices and resources for controlling harmful nematodes in potato fields. The four-year project is funded through the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture's Specialty Crop Research Initiative. The project's goals include developing support models to guide growers' management decisions, identifying molecular assays to differentiate nematode pathotypes, developing resistant potato varieties and creating a "smart chemical" for nematode-specific control.

■ Faculty in our College of Education received a **\$2 million grant from the National Science Foundation** to address the underrepresentation of American Indian and Alaska Native students-based STEM education activities for public K-12 and undergraduate students. U of I will help develop American Indian/Alaska Native-based STEM education activities for all public school levels through undergraduate studies, expand the network to tribes and communities serving American Indian / Alaska Native students and design faculty development models to encourage more participation in teaching.

- College of Natural Resources Professor Leda Kobziar is pioneering a new area of research called pyroaerobiology — the study of living microorganisms found in plumes of forest fire smoke — to better understand the effects of fire on human and ecological health. Kobziar earned a **\$500,000 grant from the National Science Foundation** to fund her research, which could have major implications for fire mitigation, fire recovery and air quality.
- The **Center for Ecohydraulics Research** is housed at the Idaho Water Center in Boise and provides graduate students a world class research program to study links between physical processes and aquatic ecosystems. The program interacts with U of I's other water programs in the College of Natural Resources, the Idaho Water Resources Research Institute and the Waters Resources Program.



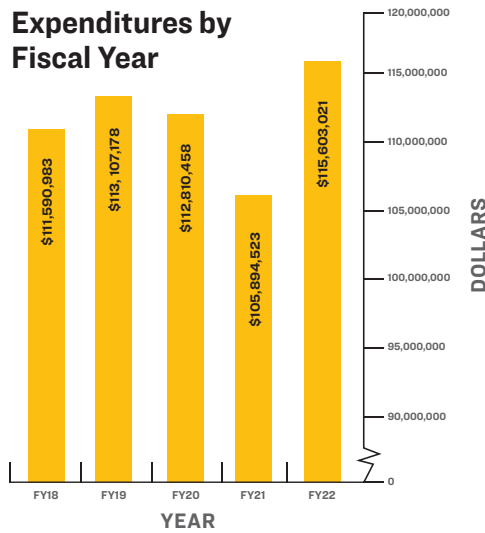
\$115.6 MILLION IN EXPENDITURES

A university working group focusing on the steps to achieve R-1 status under the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education developed a roadmap in 2020. U of I will invest in post-doctoral researchers and graduate students to help faculty accomplish research objectives. The benefit to the university, the state of Idaho and our partners throughout the state, will be a larger share of federal research dollars, higher quality research programs and a greater ability to attract quality faculty and students.

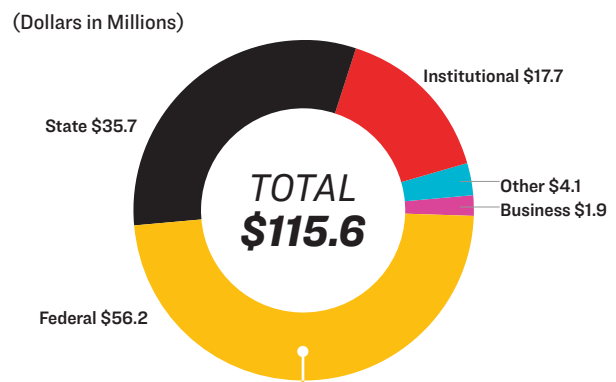
FY22 RESEARCH ACTIVITY AND EXPENDITURES

Expenditures are actual dollars spent on research as a measure of research activity. Research activity is the number of proposals and dollars awarded, not all of which is spent at the time of the report.

Total Research Expenditures by Fiscal Year



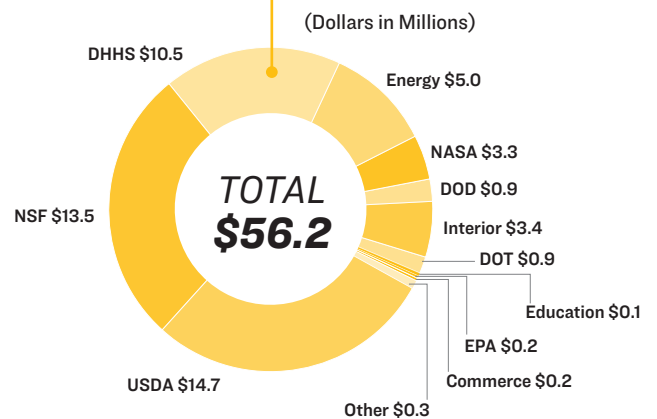
Total Research Expenditures in FY22 by Funding Source
(Dollars in Millions)



Summary of Sponsored Proposals & Awards Activity in FY22

SPONSORED PROJECTS	NUMBER	AMOUNT
Proposals Submitted	813	\$417,691,090
AWARDS RECEIVED	NUMBER	AMOUNT
New Awards	453	\$70,896,215
Other Actions	280	\$42,828,377
TOTAL AWARDS	733	\$113,724,592

Portion of Federal Research Expenditures by Sponsoring Agency
(Dollars in Millions)



FY 22 STATS	\$116 M in research expenditures	453 new awards	20 invention disclosures	13 new licenses
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PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP (P3) LEADS TO POSITIVE OUTCOMES

In November 2020, University of Idaho signed a 50-year concession agreement for the institution's utility systems. It is an exciting example of a funding mechanism that monetizes non-strategic assets, transfers risk to the private sector, promotes high quality educational programming and ultimately enhances creativity and coordination by bringing many experts to the table. The partnership with Sacyr Plenary

Utility Partners Idaho and McKinstry provides a new metric driven strategy to invest in student success, research and telling our story to better recruit students. It delivers benefits to the state of Idaho and taxpayers by providing financing for a deferred maintenance plan for our utility systems. With this P3 agreement, the university has benefitted from a minimum annual investment of \$6 million in revenue generating strategic initiatives.



GOAL 1

OBJECTIVE A: DATA ACCESS AND TRANSPARENCY

- A+ rating for **scholarship transparency**: University of Idaho was the only institution in the state recognized with an A+ rating in scholarship transparency by Universitybusiness.com.

OBJECTIVE B: ALIGNMENT AND COORDINATION

- Full implementation of the **I Transfer portal**, which allows a student to enter previous coursework to see how it will apply to any degree across the university, even prior to application.
- Inclusion of four-year plans in our catalog which allows both the freshman student as well as future transfers to understand the **pathway to completion** in four years.

- Recent purchase of Transfer Evaluation System software that will be a new and more readable interface for our **transfer equivalencies** will replace the current home-grown transfer equivalency guides. The new software provides a more modern and versatile program that will include a better display of our transfer equivalencies and allow faster turnaround in course evaluations.
- Transition to a **fully digital transcript** receiving process from the Admissions Office allows for better customer service in our ability to track where a transcript is in the evaluation process.
- The Office of the Registrar worked with departments to **better align our test score credit awards with the other Idaho institutions**, specifically in the area of international baccalaureate test credits.
- The Office of the Registrar is working with the Department of Modern Languages to award ACE recommended language credit for STAMP test scores, which is the system used at the institution to measure language proficiency. These scores will award credit and will also come with a **digital badge** from the administering test agency.

GOAL 2

OBJECTIVE A: RIGOROUS EDUCATION

- U of I's 2022 freshman class included 20 **National Merit Scholars**. There are now 61 National Merit Scholars enrolled at U of I.
- The average **incoming GPA** for U of I freshmen is 3.47. Of first-time, first-year students 29% had a GPA between 3.75 and 3.99, and 7.4% had a GPA of 4.0.

OBJECTIVE B: SCHOOL READINESS

- This year U of I launched the **4-H Learn Everywhere** pilot to allow K-12 students to earn school district approved credits for 4-H project mastery. The innovative 4-H Learn Everywhere program successfully connects public, private, online and homeschool students with **hands-on experiences** that propel them toward high school graduation.
- As Idaho's first provider to implement this program, we are offering two projects this inaugural year, Civic Engagement: Know Your Government and Animal Science. These two projects were selected because of their well-developed curriculum, community support and strong program participation. School districts are requiring approval on a case-by-case basis, therefore the pilot is working with three counties to start. **Know Your Government** – Civic Engagement is signing up students now to participate, and **Animal Science** students will begin their programs in Spring 2023. Fifteen students have started the process to receive credit for participation in one of the projects.



GOAL 3

OBJECTIVE A: HIGHER LEVEL OF EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

- U of I awarded **2,525 degrees and certificates** in 2021-22.
- Plans are underway to award associate degrees to students who've completed the requirements for a two-year degree but stopped out before earning a bachelor's degree.

OBJECTIVE B: TIMELY DEGREE COMPLETION

- U of I has the top **six-year graduation rates** in the state. Six-year grad rate raised from 59.1% to 61% in 2022.

OBJECTIVE C: ACCESS

- About **52%** of incoming freshmen in 2022 were **first-generation** college students.
- **Cultivating Future Educational Leaders for Idaho Schools**

The West Ada School District, Idaho's largest school district, faced a critical shortage of qualified candidates for leadership positions. Realizing that they needed to act quickly, administrators turned to University of Idaho's **College of Education, Health and Human Sciences** for a solution. Having partnered with the university before to address staffing needs, West Ada School District was confident that the university's Educational Leadership program would provide them with highly qualified and competent candidates to fill these critical roles.

In May, **26 teachers are graduating with their principal credentials**, ready to step into leadership positions. U of I's Educational Leadership program not only helps to fulfill the district's needs for leadership, but it also helps to retain experienced teachers in the field of

education. These new principals will serve as role models and inspire future teachers to continue their education and take on leadership positions themselves.

Through our partnership with the West Ada School District and other districts throughout the state, our program will help to address the pressing need for educational leaders in Idaho. Our graduates will not only serve as role models and inspire future teachers but will also make a positive impact on their schools and communities, creating better outcomes for Idaho students.

- **Leading Cybersecurity in the Northwest**

At University of Idaho, we are proud to be one of the National Security Agency's first seven National Centers of Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense Education. Our commitment to cybersecurity training, education and research has made us a leader in the field.

Our programs are designed to train cybersecurity professionals at all levels of deployment, from entry-level system analysts to the most sophisticated researchers. With full-fledged bachelor's, master's and doctorate programs, we provide students with the technical skills necessary to make Idaho's industry a leader in next-generation cybersecurity.

We are proud to offer more than **\$4 million in cybersecurity training scholarships** through the CyberCorps Scholarship and Grant for Service from the National Science Foundation. These scholarships cover full tuition and fees, as well as a \$25,000 stipend for upper division undergraduate students and \$34,000 for graduate students studying cybersecurity. We have 95 students enrolled in our bachelor's and master's degree programs, and we are excited to launch our new doctoral program next year. We are committed to providing our students with the best possible cybersecurity education and training, and University of Idaho is uniquely positioned to lead the way in this field.

GOAL 4

OBJECTIVE A: WORKFORCE ALIGNMENT

University of Idaho's College of Natural Resources launched three new **associate degree programs** in 2022 aimed at meeting the growing workforce needs in forestry industries. The programs in wildland fuels and fire mitigation, forestry operations, and forest nursery management prepare students for jobs after two years of education. These offerings were approved by the State Board of Education in April 2022 and are the first associate degrees offered at University of Idaho.

With the introduction of these new degree programs, University of Idaho is taking a crucial step toward addressing the growing workforce needs in forestry and is providing excellent opportunities for students to pursue their career goals. The coursework in these programs is flexible, and students gain essential skills through hands-on training while forming partnerships with real-world stakeholders in the forestry and forest products industries. Despite the timing of final approval, five students have already enrolled in the new two-year degree programs in the Spring 2023 semester, and there has been significant interest with over 80 applicants for the Fall 2023 semester.



OBJECTIVE B: MEDICAL EDUCATION

■ The WWAMI (Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana and Idaho) **Project ECHO Idaho**, launched in 2018, is instrumental in addressing the unique needs of Idaho's medical sector. In a largely rural state where access to quality healthcare can be a challenge, ECHO Idaho has partnered with healthcare providers across the state to offer innovative and responsive strategies.

Through regularly scheduled Zoom sessions, ECHO Idaho has been able to provide free continuing medical education credit to nearly 6,000 participants, improving their knowledge in various clinical content areas and offering over **26,000 hours of free training**. By doing so, ECHO Idaho is bridging the healthcare gap for Idaho's **rural and underserved communities**.

One of the major benefits of ECHO Idaho is that it helps address the shortage of healthcare professionals in rural areas. By providing continuing education and support to healthcare providers across the state, ECHO Idaho is helping to increase knowledge for providers in rural and professional shortage areas, enhance professional satisfaction and reduce isolation, and ultimately retain providers in rural areas. This is reflected in the program's statistics: during 2022, ECHO Idaho provided education through 14 distinct programs and content areas, providing 537 professional development sessions to 1,454 unique healthcare professionals.

- Founded in 2017, the **North Idaho Area Health Education Center (NI-AHEC)** in partnership with Idaho's premier medical school, WWAMI, works to develop a pipeline of healthcare professionals equipped to meet the unique needs of Idaho's rural and/or underserved communities. As one of three Centers in Idaho, NI-AHEC partners with local organizations, clinics, hospitals and schools to develop and deliver a portfolio of learning opportunities for students in grades 9-12, health professions students and health care professionals.
- Since 2013, the Idaho WWAMI Medical Education program has partnered with rural and underserved communities across the state of Idaho to participate in the **Targeted Rural Underserved Track** program. This program matches medical students to these communities where they work longitudinally with physician preceptors over the course of their medical school careers. This experience helps generate a physician workforce specifically trained for rural and underserved areas.





U OF I FUNDRAISING

■ In October, U of I launched the final phase of its capital campaign: **Brave. Bold. Unstoppable.** The campaign centers on three themes — Student Success, Sustainable Solutions for Idaho and a Thriving Idaho for All, and the goal is to raise **\$500 million by 2025.** Through FY 2022, the campaign had raised more than \$342.5 million, including more than **\$110 million toward scholarships.**

■ U of I set a new fundraising record, bringing in **\$64.6 million in FY22.** A total of **6,464 donors** made 15,089 gifts. 114 new endowments were established through \$11 million in gifts.

■ Vandal Giving Day (April 4-5, 2023), saw U of I set a new record raising \$819,662 from 1,819 gifts in just 1,889 minutes.

GIVING HIGHLIGHTS

INDIVIDUALS/FAMILIES

- **William C. Fitzhugh, M.D. '71**, who passed away last year, left an estate gift of more than \$3 million to support scholarships for Idaho WWAMI medical students, which will help reduce the cost of a medical education and address the shortage of physicians in Idaho. Dr. Fitzhugh grew up in Kimberly and practiced ophthalmology in southern Idaho for 34 years.
- **Karen Harris** gave \$300,000 in FY22 to establish a scholarship endowment to honor her late husband, **Frank W. Harris '67.** A few months later, she made her second gift by committing a bequest valued at \$300,000, which will grow the endowment, ensuring scholarship support for mechanical engineering students in perpetuity.
- Micron co-founder and entrepreneur **Tom Nicholson '59** and his wife Diana are long-time U of I volunteers and donors whose recent gifts totaling \$1 million will benefit the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, the ICCU Arena and Vandal Success Scholarships.

CORPORATIONS/ORGANIZATIONS

- **Scoular**, a leading provider of agribusiness supply chain solutions worldwide, in North America and Asia, gave \$500,000 to the Idaho Center for Agriculture, Food and the Environment (CAFE).
- **St. Luke's Health System** is the only Idaho-based, not-for-profit health system. In addition to its previous support of the Idaho WWAMI building, in FY22 the group gave \$500,000 to the scholarship endowment it established to support Idaho WWAMI medical students.
- **AgWest Farm Credit** has provided financial support to several U of I initiatives for more than a decade. In FY22, the agricultural lending cooperative gave \$300,000 to support technology and infrastructure at the Pitkin Nursery, which serves as the State Nursery of Idaho, and \$300,000 to an endowed professorship in soil sciences.
- Lumber producer **Idaho Forest Group's** gifts of more than \$600,000 are supporting industrial robotics labs and equipment, precision forestry and supply chain innovation, scholarships and student recruitment efforts.
- **The Laura Moore Cunningham Foundation** continues its generous support through a gift of \$500,000 to the McCall Field Campus, along with more than \$360,000 to advance student success through its access and business scholarship endowments.





BUILDING ON OUR FOUNDATION

IDAHO CAFE

Thanks to key investment from the state, the Idaho Center for Agriculture, Food and the Environment (CAFE) is becoming a reality this year. When finished, CAFE will be the largest research dairy in the country and allow faculty and staff to address constraints on water usage and environmental quality while supporting the agricultural sectors of dairy, livestock and cropland, as well as the food processing industries. A partnership between education, industry and economic development stakeholders will result in dynamic research and education to develop solutions to complex problems.

Research at CAFE will cover a broad range of areas from agriculture economics impacts and labor management to nutrient and wastewater management.



PARMA RESEARCH AND EXTENSION CENTER

Idaho has nearly 25,000 farms and ranches, which produce more than 185 different commodities. One of the founding missions of University of Idaho is to help these farmers, ranchers and associated businesses succeed, through our research and education programs. And one of the best ways to see this in action is at the Parma Research and Extension Center. In 2025, the Center will celebrate a century of supporting Treasure Valley farmers through research focused on the production, harvesting and storage of vegetables, forages, cereals, hops, mint, fruit and seed crops. This partnership has helped ensure Idaho seeds are ranked the best in the world. Seeds like lettuce, carrots, onions and turnips are harvested, cleaned, packaged and shipped to more than 120 countries worldwide – creating thousands of Idaho jobs in the process. The new research and extension center will allow U of I to deliver critical research and service to Idaho growers.

MCCALL FIELD CAMPUS

Our McCall Field Campus is home to the McCall Outdoor Science School, or MOSS, the premier experiential STEM Education program in Idaho. Each year, thousands of Idaho K-12 students visit the McCall Field Campus to gain hands-on education in STEM fields.

Plans are in place to expand and remodel the dining lodge and kitchen as part of the campus master plan. The expansion will triple the capacity of the facility.

The MOSS program aligns with the workforce goals of major employers in our state including Micron and INL that are dedicated to expanding K-12 STEM learning opportunities. Analysis of State Board of Education data shows that MOSS students are more likely to continue in school with “go-on” rates 20% higher than statewide averages. Our goal is to make the MOSS experience available to every student in the state, and ultimately increase the supply of STEM-ready students.



MEAT SCIENCE CENTER

U of I plans to build the Meat Science and Innovation Center on the west side of the Moscow campus. This facility will be critical for workforce training and research. The current building is more than 50 years old and is the only USDA-inspected facility in the region. The limited space in the building restricts our ability to deliver modern programs and meet local processing needs. The Center allows us to add value to Idaho agricultural products. Instead of shipping cows out of state for processing, this facility ensures we keep Idaho cows in Idaho

– adding to our state's bottom line through sales and income tax returns. The new Meat Science and Innovation Center will house Vandal Brand Meats and help us address a big need in the industry for workforce development and training. It's already garnered more than \$5.6 million in private support from more than 30 stakeholders statewide and it will play a central role in powering Idaho's livestock, agriculture and meat processing industries.





University of Idaho delivers remarkable value for students and for the state of Idaho. Our research powers industry and provides practical solutions to the state's toughest challenges. Despite significant obstacles in recent years, U of I continues to grow enrollment, fundraise at a record-breaking pace and expand its research portfolio. We remain committed to delivering education that is world class and Idaho focused.



University
of Idaho