Dear Friends,

Greetings from the College of Health Sciences!

The college faculty, staff and students continue to distinguish themselves through their work in the classroom, research settings and the community. One of the most important measures of the college accomplishments is the success of students. In this issue, you will read about the success of COHS students through research, prestigious fellowships, leadership and community activism. These examples of student success are possible because of the quality of our students, the positive educational environment that exists at Boise State University and the dedication of our faculty and staff.

As the faculty, staff and students work within the college to address our vision, mission and strategic goals one recent accomplishment is of particular significance. The college vision is to "be leaders and partners in health innovation and discovery." One of our key, overarching strategies is to form partnerships in all that we do.

Recently, Boise State University and Idaho State University generated a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that outlines advanced nursing degree responsibilities across the state of Idaho. The effort was precipitated by changes that are associated with health care reform and the need for primary and acute care across Idaho that can be addressed in a large part through advanced nursing care. The MOU outlines the statewide advanced degree programs that will be offered at each university and how the two universities will jointly offer common courses through a distance
College of Health Sciences Continues to Collaborate with East Asian Health Care Professionals and Educators

The College of Health Sciences has been exchanging professional and cultural expertise with health care professionals and educators in East Asia since 1995, when Respiratory Care Professor Lonny Ashworth became involved with the newly founded International Exchange Visit Programme for Respiratory Care Professionals. Since 1995, Ashworth has traveled to Japan twice a year to present workshops on adult mechanical ventilation and related topics. Through Ashworth's interactions with Japanese professionals, the Department of Respiratory Care has had several Japanese students enroll at Boise State.

Ashworth returned from his 25th trip to Japan this February. While in Japan, he taught seven multiple-day workshops and one full-day workshop at hospitals and medical centers around the country. While in Japan, Ashworth also met with several of the Boise State Respiratory Care graduates who are living and working in Japan. Plans were discussed for the next health care professional from Japan, a critical care nurse, to enter the Boise State Respiratory Care program in fall 2013. Ashworth has presented 70 workshops to various hospitals and universities in Japan over the years. Read more about Ashworth's latest trip to Japan online.

Within ten years of Ashworth's first workshop in Japan, several Nursing faculty were consulting with Hangzhou Normal University in China. Nursing consultations evolved into a Memorandum of Understanding between the two universities. A full history of the collaboration is available online.

This spring exchanges took place in both directions. Eight Hangzhou students visited Boise State in Feb. and March. In April, Becky Bunderson, Director of the College of Health Sciences Simulation Center, and Barb Allerton, Associate Professor in the School of Nursing, spent two weeks in China to work with the Hangzhou School of Nursing on integrating simulation into their curriculum. Bunderson and Allerton provided formal lectures on simulation and demonstrated facilitation of four actual simulations with nursing faculty and students participating. Allerton also provided guest lectures in two community health classes, focusing on family...
Students Accepted to Prestigious Summer Programs

Two College of Health Sciences students have been accepted to prestigious summer programs that will offer them once-in-a-lifetime insight into their chosen career paths. Sophomore Radiologic Sciences student Theresa Schut, at left, was selected to attend the American Society of Radiologic Technologists (ASRT) 2012 Student Leadership Development Program. First year Master of Health Science student Elmira Bakhshinyan was accepted as the HIV/AIDS Community Care and Prevention Intern with the prestigious Global Health Fellows Program II, a project of the Public Health Institute.

Schut was selected as one of the 61 international radiologic sciences students to participate in the ASRT 2012 Student Leadership Development Program. Selection for this award includes an all-expenses-paid trip to the ASRT Educational Symposium and Annual Governance and House of Delegates Meeting, June 28-July 1, in Las Vegas, Nev. In addition, Schut will attend an educational track at the Symposium specifically designed for students and she will be assigned to a professional mentor during the House of Delegates meeting. The ASRT will have a chance to develop strong national bonds with peers as well as the opportunity to receive an in-depth look at how the governance process works for the world’s largest radiologic sciences organization.

Bakhshinyan will spend the summer in Washington D.C. with the Technical Leadership and Research Division in the Bureau for Global Health's Office of HIV/AIDS. The purpose of the program is to improve the effectiveness of USAID health programs by developing and increasing the capacity of health professionals with tailored development opportunities.

Bakhshinyan is an Edmund S. Muskie Graduate Fellow and has been involved with HIV/AIDS response programs in Armenia since 2004, including directing a "Providing Care and Support to People Living with HIV" project. Boise has benefited from Bakhshinyan’s passion for HIV/AIDS response programs. When not studying for her masters with an emphasis in health promotion, she volunteers for Allies Linked for the Prevention of HIV/AIDS. Read more about Bakhshinyan and her upcoming internship online.

Two Faculty Selected for Subsidiaries of National Professional Organizations

Jane Grassley, School of Nursing, and Linda Osgood, Department of Community and Environmental Health, have been selected to participate in subsidiaries of their national professional organizations.

Grassley was accepted to the Maternal-Child Health Leadership Academy with her mentor, Judy Jones, a nurse for St. Luke’s Regional Medical Center. The academy was developed by Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing in partnership with Johnson and Johnson Corporate Contributions to prepare, position and strengthen the abilities of nurses to influence practice and patient outcomes in...
maternal-child health.

Through a competitive application process, Grassley and Jones were chosen to initiate a change project focused on improvement of breastfeeding outcomes. Grassley and Jones will spend June 11-14 in Indianapolis, Ind. at the academy working with an interdisciplinary team further developing their project.

Osgood was confirmed to the Action Community for e-HIM® Excellence (ACE) by the American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA). AHIMA, through its electronic health information management (e-HIM) initiative, is committed to accelerating the migration to a fully electronic health information practice. AHIMA believes that effective health information management can improve patient safety and the quality of care. To learn more about ACE, please visit COHS News on our website.

Community Clinic to have Gov. Otter sign a proclamation declaring March 27 "Diabetes Alert Day in Idaho." Read more about Hull’s promotion of diabetes awareness online.

Meanwhile, the Idaho Alzheimer's Planning Group (IAPG), a project of the Center for the Study of Aging, has been recognized for successfully writing and helping pass a resolution in which the Idaho Legislature affirms the seriousness of Alzheimer's Disease and supports the IAPG's efforts to develop a state plan to help meet the growing needs of patients, their families and caregivers.

AARP praised the group’s efforts in a press release after the Senate Concurrent Resolution (SCR) 112, The Alzheimer's Plan resolution, was passed. Gov. Otter wrote positively about the group in a recent newsletter. Read more about IAPG and the resolution online.

College of Health Sciences Undergraduates Demonstrate Prowess in Research at Conferences

The undergraduate students in the College of Health Sciences are highly active in research. Working closely with faculty mentors, the students have successfully created research papers, posters, and podium presentations, all of which have traveled to numerous conferences around the nation.

Two groups of student researchers in the Department of Radiologic Sciences were conferred the top awards at the National Association of Collegiate Educators in Radiologic Technology conference in Las Vegas, Nev. in February. Patrick Anderson, Michelle Phelps, and Chris Schmierer won first place for their research paper "Cutaneous Radiation Injury from Fluoroscopically Guided C-Arm Procedures." Hector Zamora, Olivas Otoniel, and Taylor Spriggle took second place for their submission, "The Effectiveness of Shielding Against Secondary Radiation." Additionally, Radiologic Sciences Students Leah M. Dobler, Dalonna M. Fannin, Shaneen Jensen, and Hailey E. Schiewe were awarded the second place prize for their primary research paper presentation at the Idaho Society of Radiologic Technologists Annual meeting. The title of the paper was "Effect of Technique Changes on Dose, Digital Exposure Index, and Image Quality." Boise State had seven paper submissions of 35 total papers submitted for review at the meeting. Learn more about Radiologic Sciences student researchers online.

Michael Hahn, a December 2011 graduate in Respiratory Care, had his article, "A Review of Palliative Sedation and it’s Distinction From Euthanasia and Lethal Injection," published in the March 2012 issue of the nationally refereed "Journal of Pain and Palliative Care Pharmacotherapy." Three of Hahn’s fellow students presented four refereed, research poster presentations at the American Association for Respiratory Care (AARC) International Congress in Nov.

Eight School of Nursing students joined eleven Nursing faculty for the 45th Annual Western Institute of Nursing (WIN) conference in April in Portland, Ore. Study topics ranged from ethnographic inquiries to studying injection sites. The students networked with nursing professionals attending the conference to learn more about how the profession advances scientific innovations, which was the theme for the conference. Read more about the School of Nursing's participation at the 2012 WIN online.

More locally, twenty-four students from across the college participated with a large variety of projects in the ninth annual Boise State Undergraduate Research and Scholarship Conference,
Department Collaborates with Idaho State to Restructure Programs at Both Institutions

The Boise State Department of Community Environmental Health saw a need to reconfigure the Health Science Studies degree into emphases to make their offerings more relevant for employers and easier for students to navigate. Idaho State University had similar plans to change health program offerings to emphases. Through discussions between institutions, an agreement was reached through a joint letter written by the health deans at both institutions to generate no duplicative health emphases that are needed in Idaho. The letter supports five Boise State health emphases and four Idaho State health emphases. The letter has been forwarded to the State Board of Education (SBOE) and will help facilitate the adoption of the new emphases for both institutions.

The SBOE has approved that Boise State students majoring in Health Science Studies may select an emphasis in Gerontology, Health Informatics and Information Management, Health Policy and Leadership, Prevention and Addiction Studies, or Public Health. Idaho State University Plans to seek approval through the SBOE for emphases in Pharmacy, Rehabilitation Sciences, Pre-Health and Paramedic Sciences.

Bachelors of Science will still be offered in Environmental and Occupational Health, Pre-Dental Studies, Pre-Medical Studies and Pre-Veterinary Medicine. The Pre-Professional Studies program will also continue to offer non-degree programs to assist students in preparing for professional schools in pursuit of their health care careers.

This collaboration is another example of the deepening relationship between the two institutions, who work to address the health related needs of Idaho and beyond.

Three Departments Will Implement New Chairs in Summer 2012

Three department chairs will step down and return to their faculty positions within the college:

- **Lonny Ashworth** has served 18 years as department chair of Respiratory Care;
- **Darlene Travis** has served 15 years as department chair of Radiologic Sciences; and
- **Sarah Toevs** has served eight years as department chair of Community and Environmental Health.

While the college will miss their knowledge and expertise, this will provide opportunities for other faculty to fill these important roles.

The faculty in these departments and the dean have identified internal replacements for the three positions that include:

- **Jody Lester**, Respiratory Care,
- **Leslie Kendrick**, Radiologic Sciences, and
- **Dale Stephenson**, Community and Environmental Health.

The changes will take place in the summer of 2012.

**Health Tip**

Want to get away from it all? Want to take a mini vacation? Want to leave the e-mail and phones behind? Sounds wonderful, doesn't it?
Step outside and plant a seed! Whether you live on a farm, a city lot, an apartment or in a condominium, you can plant a seed and watch it grow. Stepping away from the bustle of life, getting your hands a bit dirty, and nurturing a seed to spring forth into a plant is very relaxing. The stress can just melt away.

In addition to unplugging from the world, working with the soil gets you outdoors and is therapeutic in other ways. Planting a seed gets you in the sunshine and fresh air. This can rejuvenate your vitamin D levels and counteract seasonal depression. Finally, once the seed springs to life, you get to enjoy the plant or flower.

So, take a break and plant a seed!