Greetings from the College of Health Sciences (COHS)!

The end of another exciting semester is here and we’re celebrating our students’ successes with commencement. Several of those successes are described in detail in this newsletter, including our two graduating seniors who received Fulbright Scholarships for next year and our three Top Ten Scholars.

We’ve had several interprofessional education activities this semester, including our inaugural Interprofessional Research Conference and our open house during the inaugural university-wide recruiting event, Bronco Day. Nearly 1700 future Broncos and their parents came to campus on a rainy Saturday and many of them came to the Norco building to learn about health sciences. The faculty and staff that volunteered on Bronco Day also enjoyed visiting each other’s areas to learn more about the fields in the college.

Enjoy the highlights in this newsletter and please contact me if you have any comments, suggestions or questions.

Sincerely,
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Additional Stories
Two College of Health Sciences students have been awarded the prestigious Fulbright Scholarship for 2015-16, which will allow them to travel abroad for up to a year to teach and pursue research projects. Two additional Boise State University students were also awarded Fulbright scholarships, continuing the university’s reputation as a national top producer of Fulbright Scholars.

Christopher Bower, a senior who’s graduating May 9 with a double degree in social work and political science, has been awarded an English Teaching Assistant grant to Tajikistan, a mountainous landlocked country north of Afghanistan.

Adiya Jaffari is also graduating May 9 with a degree in health sciences. She was awarded a public health research grant to India for her proposal, "Maternal Mortality Ratio in India: Midwifery Practices and Quality Accessible Healthcare." Over half of the births in India still take place outside of a hospital setting, with the help of midwives, for a variety of cultural and practical reasons. In addition, nearly one-fifth of the world’s maternal deaths happen in India.

"It is likely that there are not as many skilled practitioners as there are those in need," Jaffari said in her grant proposal. "Therefore, I would like to explore the methods of practice and skill sets of midwives and how these impact the maternal mortality ratio. I hope to understand where and why maternal deaths are taking place in India and if quality maternal healthcare can be accessed outside of a hospital, with a well-trained midwife."

Three Health Sciences Students Named Top Ten Scholars

Three College of Health Sciences seniors are among the ten outstanding Boise State University graduating seniors who were recognized for their exceptional academic success at the annual Top Ten Scholars reception on April 21. Students are nominated by their academic deans and are subject to rigorous review by a selection committee.
Amanda Erickson, Bachelor of Science in Nursing, plans to continue working for St. Luke's Children's Hospital as a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit nurse apprentice and apply to graduate school. Her honored faculty is Pam Strohfus, associate professor and coordinator of the Doctor of Nursing Program, School of Nursing.

Justin Wyatt Gause, Bachelor of Science in Biology, Health Science and Pre-Medical Studies, plans to attend University of Washington School of Medicine in the fall. His honored faculty is Merlin White, associate professor, Department of Biological Sciences.

Kate Jette, Bachelor of Science in Biology and Health Science Studies with a minor in Biomedical Engineering, plans to attend Oregon State University to pursue her master's in teaching. Her honored faculty is Trevor Lujan, assistant professor, Department of Mechanical and Biomedical Engineering.

College of Health Sciences to Offer Two New Programs in Fall 2015

Boise State's Board of Trustees, the Idaho State Board of Education, has approved a graduate certificate in Healthcare Simulation and a Bachelor of Science in Imaging Sciences online degree completion program. Both programs will begin in fall 2015.

The goal of the graduate certificate in Healthcare Simulation is to provide educators and operations specialists with the skills needed to facilitate healthcare simulations and to operate and maintain a simulation center using evidence-based teaching methods. Read more about the graduate certificate.

The Bachelor of Science in Imaging Sciences online degree completion program will allow credentialed, associate degree prepared, medical imaging technologists to complete a bachelor's degree. Read more about the Imaging Sciences degree completion program.

School of Nursing Sends First Four Participants to American Association of Colleges of Nursing Student Policy
Summit

The School of Nursing sponsored four graduate nursing students to attend the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) Policy Summit on March 22-24 in Washington DC. Only 200 students were selected nationwide, and this was the first time for any Boise State students to be present. The sponsored graduate students were:

- **Kristy Schmidt**: Masters of Population Health Program
- **Andrea Rashad**: Doctorate of Nursing Program
- **Anquinette Cray**: Doctorate of Nursing Program
- **Alyyya Behles**: Doctorate of Nursing Program

The AACN Student Policy Summit is a three-day conference held in Washington DC and is open to baccalaureate and graduate nursing students enrolled at an AACN member institution. Students who attend the student policy summit are immersed in a program session focused on the federal policy process and nursing’s role in professional advocacy.

Five Doctor of Nursing Practice Students Begin Preparations for Graduation in Spring 2016

This spring, the School of Nursing hosted two cohorts of doctoral students in the Doctor of Nursing Practice program. The cohort was on campus to present their doctoral scholarly project proposals, and are expected to be back on campus to present their final scholarly projects in the spring of 2016.

Five students presented their project proposals and 13 students presented their topic ideas. The five students presenting project proposals are:

- **Cherno Bah**. "The Development and Implementation of a Glycemic Management Protocol for Adult Diabetic and Pre-diabetic Patients at a Large Psychiatric Hospital"
- **Pamela Fields**. "Prehabilitation: Impacts on Post-operative Outcomes"
- **Andrea Lambe**. "Facilitating the Sustainability of Health Behaviors in the Phase III Cardiac Rehabilitation Population"
- **Claudia Miewald**. "Process Evaluation on Crisis
These five students are eligible for graduation in May 2016 after successful presentation of their final projects next spring. They will be the first cohort of Doctor of Nursing Practice students to complete the program, which began in fall 2013.

### Inaugural Interprofessional Research Conference a Success

The College of Health Sciences held its first Interprofessional Research Conference on April 7 in the Student Union. Eighteen student posters, representing the work of 44 student authors, were showcased.

"The College of Health Sciences has a bold mission to grow interprofessional education both within and outside the college," said Ron Pfeiffer, associate dean of the College of Health Sciences, in his welcome address. "Research and scholarship is a major part of the educational process. Many of the questions we are attempting to answer with research are extremely complex and require teams of researchers from multiple disciplines-this is the essence of interprofessional research."

"The inaugural Interprofessional Research Conference was not only a success, but an inspiration and motivator for future interdisciplinary activities within the college and throughout the university and regional community," said Dale Stephenson, director of the School of Allied Health Sciences. "The conference highlighted the fact that every discipline in the College of Health Sciences is based in health and that it really does take a village to solve health-related issues in an integrated manner."

### Respiratory Care Students 'Head and Shoulders' Above Competition

Boise State respiratory care students are making a name for themselves in the Northwest as "head and shoulders above graduates of other programs," according to a recent glowing review of
students on clinical rotation at Seattle Children's Hospital in Seattle, Washington.

Respiratory care practitioners treat, manage and control patients' breathing in medical settings. As part of their education, respiratory care students spend time working in medical settings - such as neonatal intensive care units or adult critical care units - in Boise and around the Northwest so that they can observe professionals in their field and practice caring for patients.

In these settings, students are able to explore many sub-specialties in the field, including pulmonary function testing, home care, sleep studies and pulmonary rehabilitation. Equally importantly, they work with mentors who help them make the vital transition from students to practitioners.

Boise State students already have earned a reputation locally for their knowledge, professionalism and competency, and as eight students' recent out-of-state clinical rotations prove, that reputation is spreading across the Northwest.

Why I Give: Providing Hope for Mental Illness

As vice president of human resources for Ore-Ida Foods, an H. J. Heinz subsidiary, Don "Jack" Masterson (AA, arts and sciences, '53) was encouraged to participate in building a charitable fund. If he would donate a portion of his compensation over the years, the company would invest those funds in a life insurance policy, with a beneficiary of Masterson's choice.

Masterson and his wife, Diane, a former RN, chose Boise State as beneficiary, with the proceeds to benefit psychiatric health care in the School of Nursing. After 31 years with the company, the policy grew to $350,000, enough to establish a generous endowment.

The couple's interest in mental health issues started 20 years ago when a family member was diagnosed as having bipolar disorder. When Don and Diane got the news in 1988, neither of them knew much about the disorder, which affects millions in the United States each year. Their search for information led to the local office of the National Alliance on Mental Illness, for which the couple became strong advocates and volunteers.

For Don and Diane, planned giving is a way to maximize their charitable gifts. "There's also the benefit of directing money where you'd like it to be used in the hope that it will give
someone else a chance,” Don says.

Recently, the Mastersons designated that the proceeds from their life insurance policy be combined with the Matuseski estate to create a fund for the Masterson-Matuseski Professorship in Psychiatric Nursing. This professor would maintain clinical practice while teaching in the School of Nursing at the undergraduate or graduate level, conducting research and mentoring in psychiatric nursing. While the endowed professorship will not be fully funded for a number of years, the Mastersons are pleased to leave a legacy that will help shape students and research in psychiatric nursing.