FLIPPING THE CLASSROOM

BASQUE-ING IN THE CULTURE

A PLACE FOR THE ARTS

INTERNATIONAL REACH
IN THIS ISSUE

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The face of education is changing as faculty move away from traditional lectures and experiment with collaborative learning.

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A Fine Arts Building will soon rise on the west end of campus, providing a new home for the arts.

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Boise State’s Basque Studies program offers a multi-disciplinary approach to engaging in the culture.

DID YOU KNOW?
A one-of-a-kind low-power radar system developed by Boise State geosciences professor Dr. Hans-Peter Marshall was used on NASA robot GROVER to explore the ice sheets of Greenland earlier this summer. Boise State students Gabriel Trisca and Mark Robertson spent time there with NASA scientists and Marshall operated the robot remotely from his lab at Boise State.

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Campus Events

- Sept. 5
  Sandra Day O’Connor
  Transforming America Conference

- Sept. 9
  Disney Junior Live on Tour!
  at Taco Bell Arena

- Sept. 13-15
  Broadway in Boise presents “Chicago”
  at the Morrison Center

- Sept. 22
  Celebration of Life for Velma Morrison
  at the Morrison Center

- Sept. 27-29
  Parent and Family Weekend

- Oct. 2
  Josh Groban at Taco Bell Arena

- Oct. 3
  Jonathan Spence, Distinguished Lecture Series, at the Student Union

- Oct. 9-11
  Broadway in Boise presents “Memphis”
  at the Morrison Center

- Oct. 14-19
  Homecoming

- Oct. 14
  Richard Epstein, Brandt Lecture, at the Student Union

- Oct. 15
  The Averitt Brothers at the Morrison Center

- Oct. 18
  Presidential Alumni Recognition Gala

- Nov. 22
  Brian Regan Live at the Morrison Center

- Nov. 23
  Zac Brown Band at Taco Bell Arena

- Nov. 27
  Mannheim Steamroller Christmas
  at the Morrison Center

FIRST WORD

The world and workplace awaiting our students are changing at an astonishing rate.

Technology, scientific discovery, demographics, the environment, politics and policy— they are all constantly shifting and creating new opportunities for those up to the challenge. In fact, many of the jobs our students are preparing for don’t yet exist. Although many of the same skills valuable for academic success are exactly the abilities employers are looking for in job applicants: problem solving, critical thinking, adaptability and communication skills—all of which, one study shows, are more important than an undergraduate’s major when landing a job.

Inside this magazine, you’ll find a number of examples of how we are working to develop these skills to their full potential among our students.

Our Basque Studies program (featured on page 16) provides students with a global perspective and an appreciation for diversity essential to understanding the connections and relationships that influence economies and cultures here and abroad. Our story on “flipping” the classroom (page 20) shows how the traditional university lecture is being turned on its head to ensure that students come to class prepared to engage with the instructor and the material—not simply absorb it. And the design, purpose and location of our new arts building (page 13) will create deeper community connections and more opportunities for expanding our students’ creative horizons.

Everywhere on campus, examples like these highlight the ways we are preparing Boise State students for success. It’s thrilling to think about the roles they will ultimately play in this ever-changing world.
CAMPUS NEWS

A new Science and Research Building is being planned in the southeast quadrant of campus near the Engineering Complex and Environmental Research Building. This project is currently in the planning and programming phase.

Five Boise State geosciences alumni recently pooled their gifts to the university, leveraged their employers’ matching gift program and created a tribute scholarship recognizing Dr. Spiossa’s long career as a faculty member teaching stratigraphy and paleontology at Boise State. Call (208) 426-3276.

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS

cobe.boisestate.edu

COBE recently launched a fully online MBA program. This 10-course, 40-credit program is taught in seven-week blocks. A new cohort will begin every eight weeks. Students can take one or two courses in each block. Visit cobe.boisestate.edu/online MBA.

A one-year executive master’s program in business operational excellence includes Six-Sigma, lean and change management. The program is taught in five one-week sessions, including a benchmarking trip to Japan.

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

coa.boisestate.edu

The College of Education is marking the 20th anniversary of Boise State’s first doctoral program, the doctor of education in curriculum and instruction. The start of the program in 1993 branded the university as a growing academic force in the region. A total of 90 students have received doctoral degrees from the college.

The college this fall welcomed its first graduate students seeking an educational specialist degree in educational leadership, with a superintendent endorsement. The new program responds to the increasing need for leaders at both the school and district levels, especially superintendents.

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

coen.boisestate.edu

In May 2013, College of Engineering students presented more than 40 different projects to more than 80 industry representatives at the annual Senior Design Showcase, including work by this year’s outstanding graduate, civil engineering major Tim DeWeese.

Electrical engineering doctoral student Josh Kiepert is making waves in the high-performance computing world with his inexpensive and novel Raspberry Pi parallel processing approach to data sharing.

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

education.boisestate.edu

The College of Education is teaching a new graduate certificate: adult-gerontology nurse practitioner program is slated to begin in January 2014. The program includes a master’s degree in adult-gerontology nursing and two new graduate certificates: adult-gerontology nurse practitioner in acute care and adult-gerontology nurse practitioner in primary care.

The Idaho Alzheimer’s Planning Group, a project of Boise State’s Center for the Study of Aging, successfully promoted House Concurrent Resolution 34, which endorses a new state act to address Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias. The group’s students and volunteers are now working to implement the new plan.

COLLEGE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The new Ph.D. in Public Policy program launched this fall with 12 students. The program will foster the next generation of public professionals and further the college’s mission as the statewide leader in public affairs research and education.

Wrapping up its first year, the Master of Community and Regional Planning program conducted a location analysis for a proposed bike share program in Boise. Bike share programs have the potential to increase bike riding, which promotes active living and gives residents and tourists an alternative transportation option.

GRADUATE COLLEGE

gradcoll.boisestate.edu

In partnership with University Housing and eight graduate programs, the Graduate College has selected eight master’s and seven doctoral students for the fall 2013 Graduate Residential Scholars Program. The GRSP brings together a diverse set of graduate students for a unique interdisciplinary on-campus residential experience aimed at developing a global perspective.

Kate Stone joined the Graduate College in spring 2013 as its first director of graduate recruiting. Besides representing Boise State at recruiting events around the country, she is assisting the faculty as they develop recruiting strategies tailored to the needs of individual graduate programs.

John Gardner Honored for Energy Efficiency Work

Citing his leadership in working for a clean and affordable energy future, the NW Energy Coalition presented the Bob Olsen Memorial Conservation Eagle Award, its highest honor, to John Gardner, founding director of the Center for Advanced Energy Studies Energy Efficiency Research Institute (CEERI) and a mechanical engineering professor at Boise State. “I’m honored to receive this award and for the recognition it gives our programs and the great work of all of our partner institutions,” says Gardner. CEERI is focused on conserving energy, lowering costs and creating new professional opportunities.

Football Players Urge Young Students to ‘Go On’

Together they organize opportunities for young people to see the athletes they admire and hear their firsthand accounts of the challenges and rewards of attending college. “Brad and Kirby have done an excellent job preparing for and executing the Go On visits at schools,” says Jennie Sue Weitner, communications officer with the Albertson Foundation. “The kids absolutely love the players and are genuinely inspired by their stories about the different paths they took to succeed after high school and on the blue.”

Larrondo says Bronco football’s goals perfectly align with those of the Go On program. “We talk to our players about turning from young men into real men, and it takes planning,” he says. “That mirrors the Go On message of starting now to plan for the future.”

Helping young students understand the benefits of not only finishing high school but looking beyond that mark is vital, Moore says. “I chose to get involved because I recognized that as Boise State football players, we have the ability to make a positive impact with Idaho teens. The Go On message is extremely important, and if using our status as Bronco players allows that message to sink in deeper with kids, then we’ve made a difference.”

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Friendly to Boise Visitors and the Environment

By Ralph Poore

When Jennifer Orr and James Orr, who are not related, were students at Boise State University, they discovered they had more in common than a last name. They had a shared love of music, the environment and starting a business that would promote those interests.

This summer, Jennifer (BA, marketing, ‘11) and James (BS, mechanical engineering, ‘06) launched ReCab, a taxi service whose drivers act as cultural ambassadors for the Boise community. ReCab, as its name suggests, also seeks to provide an eco-friendly ride. “We recycle early ‘80s Mercedes-Benz diesel cars and run them on biodiesel made from vegetable waste oil from local restaurants,” says James. “Each cab gives a nostalgic ride back to a time when elegance, comfort and reliability were paramount. Meanwhile, each of our cabs eliminates more than 30,000 pounds of carbon dioxide from the air each year.”

The business partners first became acquainted when Jennifer worked as the promotional director for the Pulse student radio station and James was an advertising account executive for the Arbiter. After graduation, James combined his musical talent and engineering skills by practicing the art of looping, which involves playing drums, keyboard, bass and guitar, then recording it all with a set of digital pedals. This year, he is excited to get started such as on diesel fuel versus driving on veggie oil:

Car: Mercedes-Benz 300SD

- Engine: Five-cylinder, in-line turbo diesel.
- Price to retrofit: $800 to install a second fuel tank and components for the veggie oil. James Orr uses his mechanical skills to do this work himself.
- Difference in power, sound and smell between driving on diesel fuel versus driving on veggie oil: None. Some people say there is a slight smell of buttered popcorn in the exhaust of biodiesel cars.
- Price of 1982 Mercedes-Benz 300SD: $1,500 to $7,000, depending on condition.

These differences are on the way: The Boise Fry Company was the first restaurant to agree to supply its waste veggie oil to the Boise community. Five other restaurants are lined up to be partners.

Recab, with one cab, recently won first place overall at the Pi Kappa Delta National Speech and Debate tournament in St. Louis, Mo., in March. The Talkin’ Broncos beat out 88 other schools from 36 states to win the national championship, which is up for grabs every two years.

Boise State also won the national championship in 2011 and 2005 and was runner-up in 2007 and 2009.

“They worked really hard as a team. That’s it; that’s all,” says Manda Hicks, director of forensics. “It is so gratifying to see their hard work pay off. They worked as a team and did the tedious, miserable stuff that’s necessary for success and they won. I couldn’t be more proud of them.”

In addition to the team success, Joshua Watkins, who was the student speaker at the spring Commencement, was named to the 2013-2014 Pi Kappa Delta All-American team. He also was awarded Top Student Paper in the student scholarship competition.

Car: 1982 Mercedes-Benz 300SD.


Website: ReCab.us

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National Champs! That’s What We’re Talkin’ About

It took some small talk, straight talk and a little bit of sweet talk, but in the end, the Boise State University Talkin’ Broncos were the talk of the town as the Pi Kappa Delta National Champions in speech and debate ... again.

Boise State successfully defended its 2011 title and took first place overall at the Pi Kappa Delta National Speech and Debate tournament in St. Louis, Mo., in March. The Talkin’ Broncos beat out 88 other schools from 36 states to win the national championship, which is up for grabs every two years.

Boise State also won the national championship in 2011 and 2005 and was runner-up in 2007 and 2009.

“Tuition for each student is $5,689 in-state and $14,099 out-of-state,” says Manda Hicks, director of forensics. “It is so gratifying to see their hard work pay off. They worked as a team and did the tedious, miserable stuff that’s necessary for success and they won. I couldn’t be more proud of them.”

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Talking Bronco's: The talk of the town as the Boise State University Talkin’ Broncos beat out 88 other schools from 36 states to win the national championship, which is up for grabs every two years.
Program Gives Students a Shot at Starting Their Own Company

By Greg Hahn

Kayla Griffin thinks the Treasure Valley should have a cage-free, no-kill animal shelter, and she sees no reason to wait for someone else to start one.

The daughter of a “serial entrepreneur” and a self-described adrenaline junkie is already researching and writing her business plan.

Thanks to Boise State’s new Venture College, the junior planning to double-major in communication and business doesn’t have to put off her goals until she graduates. This non-credit, no-cost program of the Division of Research and Economic Development gives students an unrivaled chance to learn from Boise’s most successful business leaders and a shot at some of the $30,000 in start-up cash that will be distributed by a panel of volunteer “angel” investors from around the community.

Led by longtime entrepreneur, angel investor and higher education leader Dr. Kevin Learned; founding director of Boise State’s Office of University and Industry Ventures, Mary Andrews; and associate director Ed Zimmer, Venture College is designed to build Idaho’s future leaders while keeping these driven students on pace to graduate.

So far, more than 200 business leaders have expressed an interest in helping out. The inaugural class includes 14 students from majors as diverse as history, economics, computer science, kinesiology and engineering — all with strong plans to start their own businesses or nonprofits. Dr. Mark Rudin, vice president for research and economic development, says “You don’t join this program to get a job. You join it to make a job.”

Scholar Awarded Fulbright Fellowship to Africa

By Kathleen Tuck

Thanks to a prestigious U.S. Fulbright fellowship, Makala Knutson will travel to Swaziland, Africa, for 10 months in an effort to improve the care of children.

One of this year’s Top Ten Scholars, Knutson is a first-generation student who was awarded degrees in both sociology and psychology at spring Commencement.

“Makala will investigate grassroots neighborhood care points largely run by highly impoverished women for the care of over 33,000 orphaned and vulnerable children,” says sociology assistant professor Arthur Scarritt. “She is highly qualified for this fellowship, working tirelessly to fight injustice, whether it is confronting everyday forms of racism, or struggling alongside vulnerable children in the Treasure Valley or Swaziland.”

Knutson worked with seven other students in 2012 to create the first annual Healing Hearts Camp, a bereavement camp for Treasure Valley children between the ages of 6 and 11. Inspired by this experience, she independently traveled to Mbabane, Swaziland, where she did similar bereavement work at the Sandra Lee Centre, a home for 28 orphaned children. She also taught at the Sandra Lee Centre preschool, tutored elementary students after school and volunteered at the Mbabane Government Hospital.

The Fulbright Fellowship will allow her to return to Swaziland at the end of this year.

Study Shows Kestrels Are Stressed by Human Activity

Roadsides always have been attractive foraging grounds for American kestrels and other birds of prey. That’s because shorter grass makes mice and other snack-sized rodents more visible, and signposts, fences and telephone poles provide excellent perches. However, a new study from Boise State scientists shows that kestrels nesting close to roads and developed areas have elevated stress hormones and high rates of nest abandonment, making the apparently favorable location an ecological trap.

Graduate student Erin Strasser, now with the Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory, and Dr. Julie Heath, a professor in the Department of Biological Sciences and Raptor Research Center, published their research in the British Ecological Society’s Journal of Applied Ecology in May. Their paper, titled “Reproductive failure of a human-tolerant species, the American kestrel, is associated with stress and human disturbance,” shows that female kestrels nesting in areas with high human activity, such as along noisy roadways, have higher corticosterone levels, an indication of stress. This could be because too much ambient noise makes it difficult for them to assess the level of danger, leading to increased vigilance behavior, decreased parental care or the decision to abandon their nest.

Kestrels nesting in high disturbance areas were almost 10 times more likely to abandon their nests than those in more isolated areas.

Given that the vast majority of land in the continental United States is within a mile of a road, birds are increasingly exposed to chronic levels of road noise. Researchers conclude that until regulations or incentives are developed to encourage engineering innovations that result in quieter roads, development should be discouraged in areas of human activity with favorable habitat to decrease the risk of ecological traps.

By Kathleen Tuck
Promising Research Could Halt Tumor Growth

By Sherry Squires

From prevention to diagnosis to treatment, researchers tackle the complexities of cancer from many angles. Boise State biology professor Allan Albig is working in a relatively new area that examines the interactions between the body’s cells and connective tissues that surround them. Unraveling their mysteries could hold promise for slowing or stopping the growth of malignant tumors.

It is well known that the connective tissues and cells that make up the human body talk to one another. But what all information they contain, and what causes a protein in connective tissue to signal a cell to grow, or stop growing, is relatively poorly understood.

“We are exploiting newly discovered information about how cells function to block angiogenesis and cancer growth,” Dr. Albig says.

“This work is a good example of how basic research can lead to new ideas and approaches toward applied medicine.”

Albig received a $300,000 grant from the National Institutes of Health for his biomolecular research. A major goal of the work in his lab is to discover and characterize extracellular matrix molecules and other proteins that positively or negatively impact angiogenesis, the physiological process through which new blood vessels form from pre-existing vessels.

Angiogenesis is a normal and vital process in growth and development, as well as in wound healing. However, it also is a fundamental step in the transition of tumors from a dormant state to a malignant one.

Discovering how these molecules interact with cells could lead to the treatment of diseases associated with excessive or insufficient angiogenesis, such as cancer, vascular diseases, obesity and even baldness.

Albig is working with graduate students Arpita Malik and Bryce LaFoya and three undergraduates on his three-year project.

When ground is broken on a new Fine Arts facility north of the Micron Business and Economics Building next spring, it will signal a new era at Boise State University.

Arts and humanities have long been recognized as key to a balanced life. But the emphasis in today’s world on combining the pleasing with the functional (think iPad) means these disciplines have become vital to the success of business and technology.

“In this creativity-based economy, companies in the Treasure Valley and beyond need employees who are trained to think creatively and solve problems from different angles,” says Jared Everett, interim associate vice president for campus planning and facilities. “Some say the MFA is the new MBA.”

Currently, the Department of Art and the Arts and Humanities Institute are scattered across several locations around campus. The new building aims to bring them all under one roof.

“This will not only provide an up-to-date setting for the work of our artists, it also will serve as a focal point for an artistic community that has grown and diversified alongside Boise itself,” says Nick Miller, director of the Arts and Humanities Institute. “With the facility located on the Capitol Boulevard arts and humanities corridor — alongside the Log Cabin, the Boise Art Museum, the Idaho State Historical Museum and other related institutions — the arts and humanities will take their literal and figurative place in Boise.”

Plans, which are still being finalized, call for a three- to four-story building encompassing approximately 100,000 square feet. The building will house classrooms, exhibition spaces, studios and visual arts labs for ceramics, metals, photography, woodworking, printmaking and sculpture.

“This building will provide our students with a sense of place and belonging,” says Richard Young, chair of the Department of Art.

“It will serve as an architectural landmark for the campus and the City of Boise for its distinctive design and functionality, while providing access to the highest quality contemporary art exhibitions and cultural programming.”

The project is expected to cost about $35 million and be completed in 2016.

“I hope that it will be a site where our community can experience the arts, where they can come and see and be inspired. We can all benefit from this,” says Young.

“With the building in place, students and others from throughout the Treasure Valley and beyond will have the opportunity to learn and experience the arts in a way that has not been possible before.”

When it’s completed, the Fine Arts center will provide a place and belonging, says Young.

“Trends in the world today show we need arts and humanities education to be successful and to be creative and to think critically about the world around us,” he says.

“This new Fine Arts center will provide students, faculty and the campus community with facilities to support the highest level of artistic production and intellectual exploration, and will provide a place for new ideas and new inspiration for the future.”

Says Jared Everett: “This new Fine Arts center will provide a place for our artists where they can work together, support each other and create the next generation of artists.”

It is also expected to be a place for community and visitors as well.

“Boise State is committed to being a cultural, creative and intellectual center for the region,” Everett said. “We expect this building to help us achieve that.”

For more information about the new Fine Arts project, visit http:// FineArts Boisestate. edu.
Global Connections
Teaching, learning and research abroad

By Sherry Squires

The contributions of Boise State faculty and students dot the globe. From education to business, raptor biology to health studies, they are taking research, teaching and learning to new places.

Boise State co-founded the University Studies Abroad Consortium 30 years ago. Today it includes 41 programs in 26 countries and has helped students from more than 700 universities around the world study abroad. Boise State’s International Learning Opportunities office opens doors for students and faculty, fosters international collaboration in scholarly endeavors and facilitates the development of international cooperative agreements.

One of the university’s newer agreements is with Chonbuk National University in South Korea, where education professor Stan Steiner has worked jointly with Korean colleagues on research projects and published collaborative work. He has taught and lectured at several universities in Korea and took 11 students there this summer.

“Learning about another culture through a hands-on experience opens our understanding of what a global village really means,” Dr. Steiner says.

“We are all connected.”

The College of Business and Economics has rich offerings for those who major in international business or other business fields. Students do internships abroad, visit companies in China and Vietnam, help Idaho companies export to Germany, work with the Basque trade office, and more. But establishing a global mindset is increasingly important for all students, regardless of major.

“Even if our students plan to live in Boise they will have connections abroad because everything is global, and we need a solid international understanding to be successful at whatever we do,” says Corrine Henke, director of International Learning Opportunities. “Idaho is doing business in these countries and international connections across the spectrum make the Idaho economy stronger.”

Boise State research also is international in nature. Dr. Marc Bechard, biological sciences, has conducted research on raptors in Colombia, Argentina, Chile, Falkland Islands, Kenya and Spain, focused mainly on their migration. He also has taught classes on raptor ecology in Costa Rica, Kenya, on the Seychelles and in India, and his published work in international journals has elevated knowledge of Boise State’s unique master’s program in raptor biology.

“These classes have given students the opportunity to experience new species of raptors in environments very different from here in Idaho,” he says. “I think it is important that students have the opportunity to experience new cultures and understand conservation issues that wildlife face around the world.”

Boise State’s School of Nursing also is a leader on campus in disseminating research findings around the world. A number of tools for assessing incivility and the role it plays in education and health-care settings have been translated into multiple languages, including Hebrew, Greek, Farsi, Filipino, Mandarin Chinese, Indonesian, Malay, Arabic, French, Ganda and Spanish.

A group of students also spent time in Hangzhou, China, this summer studying that country’s nursing practices.

They place us in world conversations that are relevant to us all.”

The list of growing international efforts also includes Boise State service-learning students planning their third spring break trip to Belize in 2014, and university-offered educational trips for the community. For the past 25 years Dr. Del Parkinson, a music professor, has directed two travel programs per year to European countries and destinations such as China, Australia, New Zealand and the Galapagos Islands to help participants better understand the indigenous people and their goals and aspirations.

“While the number of partnerships continues to grow, it is these rich, deepening partnerships that build on themselves that will pay the greatest dividends for students, faculty and citizens of Idaho,” Henke says.
When former Boise State education professor Pat Bieter escorted a group of students to Oñati in the Basque Country of Spain in 1974, he not only launched what later became the University Studies Abroad Consortium (USAC), he also planted the seeds for a now-thriving Basque Studies program.

Almost 40 years later, Boise State students can study not only in Euskal Herria, the Basque homeland, but across the globe as well.

In 2005, with support of the Basque Autonomous Government and the Cenarussa Foundation for Basque Culture, Boise State established a minor in Basque Studies. From the 250 students enrolled in Basque Studies courses in 2005, the program has now tripled to include more than 750 students.

The university offers a multi-disciplinary program involving research into the language, history, politics and economies of the Basque people. And as Boise celebrates its 150th anniversary this year, Basque Studies also is helping illuminate the history of Idaho’s capital city.

“If you understand the history of the Basques, you can better understand the history of Boise,” says Robert Navert, a senior biology major who has taken several Basque Studies courses to satisfy his interest in the culture.

Basques are known for their fiercely independent nature and closely guarded cultural identity. Historically they were master shipbuilders and whalers; some scholars believe they followed lucrative fishing routes to America long before Columbus set sail from Spain.

Basques first came to the United States during the California gold rush. When that petered out, some turned to shepherding in Idaho, inviting friends and family to join them in their new home. Thus began a significant emigration to southwest Idaho from the Bizkaia region, home to Bilbao and Boise’s sister city Guernica.

Boise’s charming Basque Block now includes a museum, restored boarding house, cultural center and a fronton court for pelota (Basque racket ball). The popular Bar Gernika eatery anchors the corner of Capitol Boulevard and Grove Street.
The block is one focus of a summer Boise State course on the Basques called Investigate Boise. Students looked at the city’s desire to extend the Basque Block east to C.W. Moore Park, investigating what it would take to develop the extension and what it should include. Some students also will collaborate on a book about Basques in Idaho.

“Interest in Basque culture today is far removed from its origins,” says Dr. Dave Lachiondo, former director of Boise State’s Basque Studies Center and a second-generation Basque. “The early Basques were poor sheepherders doing the entry-level work that was available to them. In 1903, the Caldwell paper called them ‘degenerates.’”

With little education and a hard-scrabble existence, those early immigrants had no connection to academe, he says. “It’s only six blocks from Boise State to the Basque Block, but it might as well have been 60 miles.”

Today, Basque descendants and a range of Boise State academic programs and partnerships are revitalizing interest and keeping the culture alive.

“The Basque Studies program is important,” says freshman Madalen Bieter, an Oinarka Basque Dancer. “It connects me to my family, my history and my culture.” A Spanish major, Bieter is the granddaughter of Pat Bieter and daughter of Boise State language professor Nere Lete, a native of the Basque Country. “Boise State is a link in a chain of Basque networks. Its piece has been to get young people to study, learn about, experience and be part of the recipe of Basque identity,” says Gloria Totoricagüena (MA, education curriculum and instruction, ’89; BA, political science and Spanish, ’84), board member for the Cenarrusa Foundation for Basque Culture and former director of the Center for Basque Studies at the University of Nevada, Reno.

Preserving the Basque culture matters, she says. “We protect endangered flora and fauna. The Basque culture is endangered and we need to protect it. I think of it as not just protecting my history, but protecting my future and my kids’ future.”

Key to that preservation is keeping the language alive.

“Those of us who are fortunate enough to speak the language must do all that we can to assure that it survives for generations to come,” says Miren Artiach, Idaho’s deputy secretary of state and former Basque language teacher. “I feel that I have been entrusted with a gift and I must do what I can to share it with others.”

To achieve this goal, Boise State interns assist at a unique Basque language preschool housed at a church across from the Administration Building, and the Department of World Languages teaches two full years of Basque language — the most extensive course of study offered outside of the Basque Country.

But Boise State’s Basque connections extend beyond cultural preservation to also encompass economic development. Basques are interested in agriculture, high-tech, renewable energy and wine — industries that are well represented in Idaho.

To capitalize on this, an economic development office recently opened in downtown Boise, staffed by a representative of the Basque government. In addition to helping Idaho make inroads into the European market, Miren Perez Eguiurren also is serving as a visiting researcher at Boise State, working with students, interns and researchers from her office in the Micron Business and Economics Building.

“With the United States negotiating a free trade agreement with the European Union, this is a good time to explore European markets,” says Perez Eguiurren. “Based on the relationships with the Basque Country that already exist here, this is a good entry point.”

The College of Business and Economics (COBE) further has been charged with helping in the development of a Basque fellowship program that will select, train and monitor the efforts of a future Idaho representative in the Basque country.

“Our involvement highlights the role COBE can play in supporting our business community by developing international trade opportunities for Idaho,” says Dr. Meredith Taylor Black, director of the International Business Programs. “It exemplifies our greater global mission.”

The College of Engineering also is partnering with the Basque Studies Program and the Boise State Museum and Cultural Center to actively recruit students from the Basque Country. The college offered two assistantships for the first time this year for Basque students working toward a Ph.D. in electrical and computer engineering as part of ongoing efforts to recruit qualified candidates from around the world.

You’ll find other examples of collaboration in departments across campus, including:

* Engineering professor Peter Müllner is working on a joint project with three professors from the Basque Country on magnetic shape memory alloys

* Business professor Nina Ray is involved in a case study on international marketing

* Construction management students are looking at what it would take to renovate the Basque Block for next year’s 100th anniversary of the pelota court

* Several faculty have traveled to the Basque Country to teach courses

These and similar efforts nurture ties to the Basque Country and help to perpetuate and promote the culture in Boise and beyond.

“Basque studies may seem like something small that’s unique to Boise. But really, it’s global,” says Basque historian Dr. John Bieter (MA, history, ’92), co-founder and assistant director of the Basque Studies Center and son of Pat Bieter. “It invites you to see the world a different way.”
Before they ever enter the classroom to examine the reasons for the bombing of Pearl Harbor, students in Japanese history have already watched their professor’s lecture online. They know the economic, political, religious, cultural and other arguments Japanese history books give for the attack. Classroom time is devoted to discussing the validity of the different points of view.

Welcome to the flipped classroom of Dr. Shelton Woods, associate dean of the College of Social Sciences and Public Affairs, who teaches courses in East and Southeast Asian history.

The flipped classroom delivers instruction online outside of class and moves “homework” into the classroom, where students are able to discuss the topic in-depth.

Many professors at Boise State are using modern technology to turn the traditional learning model on its ear. But the changes they are making are not about the digital tools they’re using. The changes are about students and teachers becoming more engaged in learning.

“Research shows that interactions, both between faculty and students and between student peers, support student learning,” says Dr. Susan Shadle, director of the Center for Teaching and Learning, which provides resources to promote innovation and excellence in learner-centered teaching at Boise State. “Courses that use active learning approaches help students learn what to do with course material because they get practice and feedback in real time.”

Shadle noted that most course instruction on campus is still delivered through a traditional classroom lecture by a faculty member. “But many faculty members across all disciplines are exploring additional strategies to supplement, or even replace, lectures.”

At the heart of changes to the traditional classroom model is an effort to use face time in a way that best promotes student learning. “Students used to come to campus because this is the place where the experts, library and other resources are located,” Shadle says. “But with computers, digital notepads and smartphones, students can access information on the Internet from anywhere at anytime.”

Faculty members are taking advantage of students’ digital abilities by posting their lectures online and directing students to other resources prior to the scheduled class time. “We call this moving from the ‘sage on the stage’ to the ‘guide on the side,’” says psychology professor Eric Landrum, who has flipped his classes for several semesters.

Dr. Landrum notes that flipping the classroom is not about replacing teachers with online videos or students working in a class without structure. An effective flip requires careful preparation. Recording lectures takes effort, time and a certain amount of technical skill on the part of the faculty member. Out-of-class and in-class elements need to be carefully integrated for students to understand the model and be motivated to prepare for class.

“The fundamental idea is to make the content of lectures easily digestible outside of the classroom, while freeing up in-class time for more interactive, deeper learning,” says Dr. Shawn Benner, geosciences associate professor.
classroom,” says Dr. Alark Joshi, assistant professor of computer science. “Students can gain a lot more from peer learning and discussing concepts in class as a group.”

Kathrine Johnson, mathematics lecturer, uses team-based learning in her flipped applied statistics course. “Teams are formed on the first day of class,” she says. Students read text materials or watch videos before class. “In class, the teams work on short projects or problems and no teamwork is required outside of class, although many teams meet on their own time to study.”

Biomechanics is traditionally taught using lectures and labs. When kinesiology associate professor Dr. Shawn Simonson flipped his biomechanics classroom, he found that he and his students became more engaged with observations, answering questions and providing feedback.

In the classroom, students work cooperatively in small groups and each student has a role as the group’s manager, recorder, spokesperson or strategy analyst. “In order to foster individual participation and accountability, the roles are rotated daily so that students don’t do only what is comfortable, but also develop the skills of all the roles,” Simonson says.

To make sure students take the online background assignments seriously, some professors give individual and team quizzes at the start of each face-to-face class. In Johnson’s statistics course, the team quiz uses a scratch-off pad that immediately tells team members if they are correct. If the team picks the wrong answer, the members continue until they reach the correct answer.

Simonson uses a similar method and notes that, “Students can appeal any answer. This helps them learn the material and corrects any misunderstandings. After the appeals we discuss any content that was troublesome in order to ensure understanding.”

Joshi has his computer science students take an individual quiz first and then take the same quiz as a team. Students are then prepared to tackle more interesting problems in the class rather than just hearing about the material for the first time.

Joshi says “Now, my class time is spent discussing problems and various approaches to those problems rather than introducing material to the students for the first time. Student engagement is clearly higher and their questions are deeper since they have had a chance to think about the material before they come to class.”

In the end, a flipped classroom encourages students to be responsible for their own learning, and to make it a lifelong habit.
Bronco Contacts Build Alumni Network, Advance Boise State

By Mike Journee

One would think that the nearly 700 miles of desert and mountains between Carl Asbury and his alma mater would dampen his Bronco spirit a bit. But apparently blue and orange are more vivid to his eyes because of it.

“I believe the foundation of Boise State in 1932 was a special event,” says Asbury (BA, general business administration, ’76). “I believe its transition to a university was a natural occurrence. And I believe the evolution of the university campus we see in 2013 was not to be denied.” Such relentless passion for Boise State was stoked early in Asbury’s life — he grew up near the Boise Depot, just blocks from campus, and rode his bike on Boise State sidewalks as a kid. Now, as an alumnus and resident of Livermore, Calif., in the San Francisco Bay Area, Asbury keeps his Bronco fire alive by volunteering as a Bronco Contact for the Boise State Office of Alumni Relations and the Boise State Alumni Association.

Every year, he coordinates and hosts a handful of events in his area for other Bronco alumni and friends — Bronco football viewing parties, new student barbecues and more. For Asbury, being a Bronco Contact gives him an opportunity to fly the Boise State colors, stay abreast of what’s happening on campus, find and connect with other Broncos in his area, and contribute to Boise State’s progress.

“I have huge aspirations for Boise State and I feel that to build Bronco Nation, we need passionate volunteers who can help,” says Asbury, who works for Bay Area Rapid Transit as a contract manager. “I hope my efforts are making a contribution.”

For Boise State, there’s no question that engaged alumni volunteers like Asbury are invaluable to the advancement of the university. In particular, its 25-city, nationwide network of Bronco Contacts is especially important for staying in touch with far-flung alumni.

“Bronco Contacts are often the main connection between Boise State alumni and friends in their area and the university,” says Jennifer Wheeler, interim executive director of the Office of Alumni Relations. “With their leadership, communities of Boise State supporters are growing and thriving all over the country. It’s proven to be very effective and rewarding for everyone.”

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Less formal than traditional alumni chapters with their officers, bylaws and event requirements, the Bronco Contact model allows alumni volunteers the flexibility to determine their personal level of involvement and decide what type of activities they want to plan. With support from the Office of Alumni Relations, Bronco Contacts are asked to coordinate at least one event each year in their area. Events can be anything from gatherings at local restaurants or bars to watch Bronco football games on TV to representing Boise State at new student recruitment events or putting together community service teams. And there can be more than one Bronco Contact, even several, in any particular area or city.

Ryan Merz (MA, criminal justice, ’02) just moved to the Bay Area himself, not far from Asbury. He hopes to repeat his past success as a Bronco Contact in his new town, where he just landed a job as director of compliance and student services for the athletic department at the University of San Francisco. He previously volunteered in the San Diego area, where he was able to build a large network of supportive Broncos for weekly football viewing parties — a record 75 attendees showed up to watch the Boise State football game against Michigan State.

Why does Merz do it?
“It’s really fun to build it up and watch it grow,” he says.

“People think it’s a lot of work, but it’s not — it’s a labor of love.”

OUR BRONCO NETWORK

WANT TO BE A BRONCO CONTACT?
VISIT ALUMNI.BOISESTATE.EDU
1960s

JEROLD D. KELLY, as arts and sciences, ’66, retired from the Air Operations Division of the U.S. Marshals Service as the senior domestic and international criminal. During this time in the 1980s, he was stationed at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas, and in 1989, then reenlisted for another tour of duty in South America.

JOHN FRANKLIN, as arts and sciences, ’67, has been a pastor in the United Methodist Church and has served in several positions including the administrative assistant for the Shasta Conference of the UMC, the director of local and regional church boards for the Shasta Conference and the Idaho and Oregon Districts.

1970s

ARTUR EDEB, as business administration, ’76, Molalla, OR, has been a producer for independent films. He is also the Northwest AFL-CIO Affiliation Conference of Community College Foundation of Oregon, which awards grants to community college faculty for instructional projects. He is also the coordinator of the community college faculty’s work on the Northwest Regional Technology Project.

JACOB KAMERON, as business administration, ’76, has been a successful entrepreneur in the real estate and construction business. He has started several businesses, including a real estate development company, a construction company, and a residential and commercial real estate development company.

LEANN LEWIS, as business administration, ’81, Molalla, OR, was selected as Idaho’s “State Star” for her work in business and community service. She is a member of the Rotary Club and has served as president of the Molalla Area Chamber of Commerce. She has also been involved in various community service projects, including volunteering at the Molalla Food Pantry and serving on the Molalla Area Chamber of Commerce board.

1980s

JOHN MORGAN, as business administration, ’81, Molalla, OR, was selected for the Molalla Area Chamber of Commerce Young Entrepreneurs Award. He is the owner of Morgan’s Ace Hardware and has been a member of the Molalla Area Chamber of Commerce and the Molalla Area Business Association.

MARK DANN, as business administration, ’81, Molalla, OR, was selected for the Molalla Area Chamber of Commerce Young Entrepreneurs Award. He is the owner of Dann’s Ace Hardware and has been a member of the Molalla Area Chamber of Commerce and the Molalla Area Business Association.

STEPHEN WERNSTEDT, as business administration, ’81, Molalla, OR, was selected for the Molalla Area Chamber of Commerce Young Entrepreneurs Award. He is the owner of Wernstedt’s Ace Hardware and has been a member of the Molalla Area Chamber of Commerce and the Molalla Area Business Association.

1990s

JAY MILLER, as business administration, ’95, Molalla, OR, was selected for the Molalla Area Chamber of Commerce Young Entrepreneurs Award. He is the owner of Miller’s Ace Hardware and has been a member of the Molalla Area Chamber of Commerce and the Molalla Area Business Association.

MICHAEL MURPHY, as business administration, ’95, Molalla, OR, was selected for the Molalla Area Chamber of Commerce Young Entrepreneurs Award. He is the owner of Murphy’s Ace Hardware and has been a member of the Molalla Area Chamber of Commerce and the Molalla Area Business Association.

2000s

ALEX PALMER, as business administration, ’01, Molalla, OR, was selected for the Molalla Area Chamber of Commerce Young Entrepreneurs Award. He is the owner of Palmer’s Ace Hardware and has been a member of the Molalla Area Chamber of Commerce and the Molalla Area Business Association.

JEREMY MOSS, as criminal justice administration, ’01, Molalla, OR, was selected for the Molalla Area Chamber of Commerce Young Entrepreneurs Award. He is the owner of Moss’s Ace Hardware and has been a member of the Molalla Area Chamber of Commerce and the Molalla Area Business Association.

WILLIAM SHAW, as business administration, ’91, Molalla, OR, was selected for the Molalla Area Chamber of Commerce Young Entrepreneurs Award. He is the owner of Shaw’s Ace Hardware and has been a member of the Molalla Area Chamber of Commerce and the Molalla Area Business Association.

TROY BASS, as business administration, ’91, Molalla, OR, was selected for the Molalla Area Chamber of Commerce Young Entrepreneurs Award. He is the owner of Bass’s Ace Hardware and has been a member of the Molalla Area Chamber of Commerce and the Molalla Area Business Association.

The following graduates were recognized by the Idaho Business Review at the June celebration for the 2015 Accomplished Under 40 Awards.

D. JOHN ASHBY, as business administration, ’01, Molalla, OR, was selected for the Molalla Area Chamber of Commerce Young Entrepreneurs Award. He is the owner of Ashby’s Ace Hardware and has been a member of the Molalla Area Chamber of Commerce and the Molalla Area Business Association.

JESSICA BURKE, as business administration, ’01, Molalla, OR, was selected for the Molalla Area Chamber of Commerce Young Entrepreneurs Award. She is the owner of Burke’s Ace Hardware and has been a member of the Molalla Area Chamber of Commerce and the Molalla Area Business Association.

BRIAN DOSTER, as business administration, ’01, Molalla, OR, was selected for the Molalla Area Chamber of Commerce Young Entrepreneurs Award. He is the owner of Doster’s Ace Hardware and has been a member of the Molalla Area Chamber of Commerce and the Molalla Area Business Association.

CLAYTON FREEMAN, as business administration, ’01, Molalla, OR, was selected for the Molalla Area Chamber of Commerce Young Entrepreneurs Award. He is the owner of Freeman’s Ace Hardware and has been a member of the Molalla Area Chamber of Commerce and the Molalla Area Business Association.

BENJAMIN KELLY, as business administration, ’01, Molalla, OR, was selected for the Molalla Area Chamber of Commerce Young Entrepreneurs Award. He is the owner of Kelly’s Ace Hardware and has been a member of the Molalla Area Chamber of Commerce and the Molalla Area Business Association.

TROY BASS, as business administration, ’01, Molalla, OR, was selected for the Molalla Area Chamber of Commerce Young Entrepreneurs Award. He is the owner of Bass’s Ace Hardware and has been a member of the Molalla Area Chamber of Commerce and the Molalla Area Business Association.

AUGUST MASON, as computer information systems, ’01, Molalla, OR, was selected for the Molalla Area Chamber of Commerce Young Entrepreneurs Award. He is the owner of Mason’s Ace Hardware and has been a member of the Molalla Area Chamber of Commerce and the Molalla Area Business Association.

WILLIAM SHAW, as business administration, ’01, Molalla, OR, was selected for the Molalla Area Chamber of Commerce Young Entrepreneurs Award. He is the owner of Shaw’s Ace Hardware and has been a member of the Molalla Area Chamber of Commerce and the Molalla Area Business Association.

TROY BASS, as business administration, ’01, Molalla, OR, was selected for the Molalla Area Chamber of Commerce Young Entrepreneurs Award. He is the owner of Bass’s Ace Hardware and has been a member of the Molalla Area Chamber of Commerce and the Molalla Area Business Association.

JEREMY MOSS, as criminal justice administration, ’01, Molalla, OR, was selected for the Molalla Area Chamber of Commerce Young Entrepreneurs Award. He is the owner of Moss’s Ace Hardware and has been a member of the Molalla Area Chamber of Commerce and the Molalla Area Business Association.

WILLIAM SHAW, as business administration, ’91, Molalla, OR, was selected for the Molalla Area Chamber of Commerce Young Entrepreneurs Award. He is the owner of Shaw’s Ace Hardware and has been a member of the Molalla Area Chamber of Commerce and the Molalla Area Business Association.
2010s

MATTHEW MURGATROYD, M.A., '10, was promoted to president of Tenex of Idaho, a professional marketing company in Boise, where he is responsible for communications, administration management and the company’s daily operations. He had worked for Security Pacific Bank, Charles Schwab & Co. and the Bank of America. In 2008 he joined Treasure Valley Planning Council, an environmental and non-profit organization. His wife, the Ada County Sheriff’s Office, got the city’s Health System, the City of Boise and Cooper Mountain Software. He lives in Boise.

MASSACHUSETTS, M.A., '08, became president of the 3:45:13 Men’s Track Club and was named director of admission for the College of Boise State students and her eldest is in the University of Phoenix.

STEVEN PATRICK, M.D., 41, is a family practitioner in Coeur d’Alene and he is in the University of Arizona.

MATT BAUSCH, M.S., ‘07, and his wife, the Ada County Sheriff’s Office, got the city’s Health System, the City of Boise and Cooper Mountain Software. He lives in Boise.

STEFAN SIEBOLD, M.E., ‘93, joined the software design group at Google and will be in the University of Washington before transitioning to Boise State for his final two years of eligibility. He lives in Caldwell, Wash.

STEVEN LESTER, M.E., ‘93, joined the electrical engineering wing of Boeing in Seattle and will be in the University of Washington before transitioning to Boise State for his final two years of eligibility. He lives in Caldwell, Wash.

EUGÈNE “CHRISTI” GEORGE-HERZBERG, M.S., ‘17, was hired as a client relationship manager for Stranger Harvest Group Boise, Sunshine Harvest is responsible for processing new business for clients and assisting with plan commodity and new plan installation and conversions.

BARBARA BADER, Abigail, '12, joined the University of Idaho in 2012, was promoted to president of Tenex of Idaho, a professional marketing company in Boise, where he is responsible for communications, administration management and the company’s daily operations. She had worked for Security Pacific Bank, Charles Schwab & Co. and the Bank of America. In 2008 she joined the Treasure Valley Planning Council, an environmental and non-profit organization. His wife, the Ada County Sheriff’s Office, got the city’s Health System, the City of Boise and Cooper Mountain Software. He lives in Boise.

JASON SEARS, B.A., computer information systems, '04, '08, is an assistant professor of the University of Idaho. He was named by Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack to be the first point of contact for those involved in the Farm Bill. It is a young and assistant farmer and chamber chairman.His job in barley.

DAVE OGDEN, B.A., computer information systems, '94, was appointed by Boise State University as an information security officer at Office of Information Technology. He had served as vice president of information technology services at Boise State and has been the manager of information security services since 2005. Ogdens also served as a financial systems analyst in the controller’s office for three years at Associated Students and self-directed software developer and analyst with the Technology Application Services department for seven years.

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Are You a Bronco?
Former President John B. Barnes shepherded the school through several incarnations from Boise College to Boise State University, and was the guiding force behind many of the athletics, academic and housing facilities that still define campus — including Bronco Stadium. The residence hall built during his tenure, then called Towers Hall, now bears his name. In 1974, he helped persuade the Legislature and then-Gov. Cecil Andrus to grant the school university status.

“The Boise State family has lost a great leader and friend,” says Dr. Bob Kustra, Boise State President. “Though we mourn John Barnes’ death, we celebrate his legacy through the bold and thriving campus his vision helped create.”

Barnes foresaw the growth and expansion that awaited a campus entrenched in one of the West’s fast-changing cities.

“My first challenge was to fund new buildings,” he said in a 2007 FOCUS on Boise State University interview. “We were adding [hundreds of] new students each year and I was hiring faculty like mad. ... I knew this wouldn’t be a small place for long.”

His leadership helped erect the old Business and Economics Building, the Kinesiology Annex, additions to the Library and Student Union, the Special Events Center and the Science Building, which also housed the Nursing program in Barnes’ day.

His efforts to boost the school’s athletics programs earned him a place in the Boise State Hall of Fame in 1998. He was instrumental in Boise State joining the Big Sky Conference, oversaw the creation of the Bronco Athletic Association and started building the case for the Pavilion, now known as Taco Bell Arena.

Longtime Boise State supporter and patron of the arts Velma Morrison passed away in June at the age of 92. Her invaluable and long-lasting contribution to Boise State University will forever be embodied in the Velma V. Morrison Center for the Performing Arts on the north edge of campus. Morrison was a close partner with the university in developing and supporting the state-of-the-art venue.

Boise State President Bob Kustra says, “She was like the guardian angel of the Morrison Center — she guided it and protected it and shepherded it so future generations could enjoy it and continue to learn from and be inspired by its productions.”

Velma Morrison’s extensive accomplishments included her work with the Harry W. Morrison Foundation, the namesake of her late husband.

Boise State awarded Morrison a Silver Medallion in 1984, the university’s highest recognition for service, and an honorary doctorate in 2010. In presenting the honorary doctorate, Dr. Kustra noted “While her interests are broad, the relationship we enjoy in fostering the arts through the Morrison Center is among our university’s most treasured partnerships. Her ambition and generosity have impacted countless lives and will continue to do so for years to come.”

The Morrison Foundation also has supported academic programs, including the College of Engineering. In 1999, the university dedicated the Harry W. Morrison Civil Engineering Building. In 2004, Velma was named an honorary lifetime member of the Boise State University Foundation, in recognition of her many years of service to higher education and Boise State University.