

Plans begin for new community college following voters' OK

The voters of Ada and Canyon counties have spoken, the J.A. and Kathryn Albertson Foundation has stepped forward with a major initial investment, five trustees have been selected, and the stage is set to create a community college in the Treasure Valley.

In May, the initiative to establish a taxing district for a community college in southwest Idaho received a 68 percent approval, which met the supermajority requirement of a two-thirds margin of total votes cast.

The good news got even better a week later when executives with the Albertson Foundation announced a donation of \$10 million to help launch the College of Western Idaho, as the new college has unofficially been named.

In July, the State Board of Education selected five trustees from nearly 100 applicants to shape the new Nampa-based college. The trustees are:

- Hatch Barrett, president and CEO of Trebar Inc. in Boise, honorary director of the Boise State Foundation, and a member of the Seland College of Applied Technology Advisory Council
- Mark Dunham (BA, communication, '84), vice president of the Idaho Association of Commerce and Industry and Boise State's former director of government relations and interim vice president of university advancement
- Jerry Hess, founder, president and CEO of J.M. Hess Construction Inc.; former State Board member, a member of Micron Technology's board of directors; and a former student at Boise Junior College
- Guy Hurlbutt, president of the Idaho Business Coalition for Education Excellence, a member of the Seland College Advisory Board, and an adjunct business professor at Northwest Nazarene University
- Mary Carol Niland, chairwoman of the Nampa Chamber of Commerce and a member of BSU's Canyon County Campus Advisory Board

Among their duties, the trustees will establish the community college's budget and tuition, set a property tax rate to help pay for the school, hire a president, and decide on the curriculum.

As the school begins to take shape, Boise State will likely play a key role. The university's Seland College of Applied Technology, which offers courses and services associated with a community college, and all or part of the Boise State West campus in Nampa have been targeted as primary resources and facilities for the two-year school.



JOHN KELLY

Primary among those who have helped shape Boise State during its 75 years is alumnus and Micron Technology chief executive officer **STEVE APPLETON**, who was awarded the university's fifth honorary doctorate by Provost Sona Andrews and President Bob Kustra during spring commencement ceremonies in Taco Bell Arena. Appleton (BBA, management, '82) and the alumni, faculty, staff, students, donors, volunteers and supporters of Boise State who are featured in this commemorative diamond anniversary issue of *FOCUS* are just a few of the many who have contributed to the university's amazing story and rising stature.

Fallen soldiers honored at commencement

Six members of the Boise State community were honored for making the ultimate sacrifice to their country at the May 12 commencement ceremony held in Taco Bell Arena.

A slide show recognized the service and death of soldiers Alan B. Rowe, Virgil R. Case, Jacob H. Allcott, Ross A. Clevenger, Raymond M. Werner and James J. Holtom, all of whom died in the Afghanistan or Iraq conflicts. As their photos were shown on the big screen, the University Symphonic Winds and Boise Police Pipes and Drums bagpipe band played a special tribute.

The ceremony, attended by 1,300 graduates and more than 10,000 supporters, also featured the presentation of an honorary doctorate to Micron Technology CEO and BSU alumnus Steve Appleton. In accepting his award, Appleton noted the exceptional value of a Boise State education and the quality of the school's graduates. In all, 1,778 students were awarded 1,850 degrees and certificates; 412 students graduated with honors.

Student speaker Maria Martinez, a biochemistry major headed off to dental school at the University of Pittsburgh, talked about how Boise State helped her achieve the American dream. The first in a family of nine children from Michoacan, Mexico, to attend college, Martinez said that graduating from college will allow her to give back just a fraction of what this country has given her.

Martinez also noted the quality of her education at Boise State. "Only great things await current and future Boise State students," she said.