

Boise State receives \$12.5 million contribution from Micron Foundation for business building

The Micron Technology Foundation is the lead contributor for a new College of Business and Economics building at Boise State. The foundation will contribute \$12.5 million for the planned state-of-the-art building that will be located at the corner of Capitol Boulevard and University Drive.

The building will serve as a gateway to the university from the west. Current budget projections are for a total project cost of \$31 million.

"Boise State University has been a great partner in education, helping Micron and others achieve success through the success of its faculty and students," said Steve Appleton, Micron chairman, CEO and president. "Boise State is an institution that continues to increase its contributions to the community, the state of Idaho and the nation. We are pleased to participate in the university's efforts to again reach new levels of excellence."

The university plans to seek approval for the project from the State Board of Education this year. Pending approval and success in raising additional funds, construction could begin as early as spring 2008.

"We are delighted by Micron's generosity in helping us achieve our goals," said Boise State President Bob Kustra. "A new



From left, Micron chairman, CEO and president Steve Appleton, President Bob Kustra and Business Dean Howard Smith during the Jan. 19 check-presentation ceremony on the Boise State campus.

building to house the College of Business and Economics is a top priority for the university. A state-of-the-art facility is essential in order for us to continue to meet the needs of today's business environment, and will not only help retain our excellent faculty, but will help attract the best and brightest new faculty in the coming years."

The Micron gift includes \$5 million in matching funds for additional donations to the business building. Final programming

and detailed design for the building will begin in earnest upon State Board of Education approval.

Student enrollment in business programs has grown from 1,000 business majors in 1970, when the current business building opened, to nearly 3,000 students. Some existing classrooms have been retrofitted with the latest technology, but continuing to train a growing number of students will require a new facility, Smith said.

University's success story spurs \$250,000 gift from alum

Inspired by momentum at his alma mater and the national media regarding the success of its football program, a Boise Junior College alum has pledged \$250,000 toward a new College of Business and Economics building.

Doyle Heaton (diploma, business administration, '61) responded to a mailing from the university that included a front-page *USA Today* article on Boise State and news of Micron's multi-million dollar donation (above), with his pledge. "I want to give back to the community and give back to Boise State," he says. Heaton also established scholarships in the College of Business and the Construction Management Department in 2005.

A room in the new building will be named the

Doyle Heaton Seminar Room to honor his contribution.

"Impressive support such as this will enable us to take a great foundation and turn the college into one of the Northwest's premier schools of business," says Howard Smith, dean of the College of Business and Economics.

Heaton was a member of the first graduating class at Borah High School in 1959. He went on to earn his bachelor's degree in business with an emphasis in building and real estate from the University of Denver in 1963 and did graduate work at UC Berkeley in real estate and finance. He has been building homes in northern California since 1965 and started Delco Builders and Developers in Walnut Creek, Calif., 32 years ago. He is company owner and president.