

## BOISE STATE TO PLAY ROLE IN 2009 SPECIAL OLYMPICS

Boise State will be a key player when Idaho hosts the Winter Special Olympics in February 2009. In May, the international Special Olympics Committee announced it had chosen Idaho to host the 2009 Winter World Games.

Idaho beat out bids from Reno/Tahoe, Nev.; Garmisch Partenkirchen, Germany; and Schladming-Graz, Austria. As many as 3,000 Special Olympians from nearly 100 nations will compete in downhill skiing, cross country skiing, snowboarding, snowshoeing, speed skating, figure skating and floor hockey.

Boise will be the hub for the Games, with the Boise Centre on The Grove serving as the Olympic Village. The opening and closing ceremonies will be in either Bronco Stadium or Taco Bell Arena, and floor hockey, the Games' most popular sport, will be in Taco Bell Arena.

## BOISE STATE TO KICK OFF 1st-YEAR READING PROGRAM

This fall Boise State will debut its First-Year Student Reading Program. About 2,000 of the university's new, degree-seeking academic students are being asked to read *Mountains Beyond Mountains* by Pulitzer Prize winner Tracy Kidder, one of the most popular reads by first-year students on college campuses.

Coordinated by the Orientation Office, the First-Year Student Reading Program is designed to reinforce academic values, engage students in discussions on pertinent issues, and build campus community.

First-year students are expected to read the book this summer and be prepared to discuss it when they arrive on campus. Free copies of the books are currently being distributed to new students at orientation programs and via the mail.

First-year students will be engaged in discussions about *Mountains Beyond Mountains* in several venues.

University 101 courses will include discussions of the book, and Student Housing is developing programs around book discussions. Other activities are scheduled throughout the fall semester.

# Thanks for the memories...

This year's class of retiring faculty includes 25 veterans representing combined service to Boise State of more than 600 years. Ranging in fields from engineering to philosophy, chemistry to economics, social work to art, these professors leave with many honors and our profound gratitude. Here is a brief look at those who retired in 2005-06:

**STEPHEN AFFLECK**, engineering professor and chair of the Civil Engineering Department from 1997-2005, has taught at Boise State since 1981. He also served as interim director of engineering programs and chair of Construction Management and Engineering. He was chair of the Idaho Council of Engineering Educators, an honorary member of Phi Theta Kappa, Phi Kappa Phi and Sigma Xi, and a member of the Idaho Society of Professional Engineers, Order of the Engineer, and the American Society for Engineering Education.

**GARY ARAMBARRI**, senior instructor and Center of Transportation manager in the College of Applied Technology, has taught at Boise State for 32 years. He authored a book, *Blueprint Reading and Layout Handbook for Welders*. Prior to his career at Boise State, Arambarri worked for a steel fabrication firm for 15 years, starting out as an apprentice and leaving as plant manager. He earned a diploma in welding from Boise State, and a bachelor's in vocational education and master's in adult education from the University of Idaho.

Sociology professor **RICHARD BAKER** came to Boise State in 1973. He was chair of the Sociology Department and served in the Faculty Senate. Baker has published two books, *Los Dos Mundos* and *Mexican*



*American Students*, and has received awards from the Hispanic Issues and Training Conference and the Idaho Commission on Hispanic Affairs. He received the Larry Selland Humanitarian Award, the BSU Distinguished Service Award, and the award for outstanding contributions to the cause of Latino students at BSU from the Organizacion de Estudiantes Latino-Americanos.

He established six scholarships for sociology students and a minor in Mexican American studies in the Sociology Department.

**BOB BARR**, senior analyst with the Boise State Center for School Improvement, is a nationally recognized consultant and scholar on at-risk youth, school improvement and alternative



education. Barr has co-authored four books, including *The Kids Left Behind: Teaching the Underachieving Children of Poverty* and

*Saving Our Students, Saving Our Schools: 50 Proven Strategies for Revitalizing At-Risk Students and Low-Performing Schools*. He was dean of the College of Education from 1991-98, served two years as a board member of the Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory, and was an Idaho delegate to the Education Commissions of the States.

**JAMES BLANKENSHIP** has taught painting, drawing and design at Boise State since 1977. He also taught many popular community watercolor workshops, including an annual workshop in McCall. Blankenship exhibited his work in shows across the country and around the world, including Los Angeles, Albuquerque, Honolulu,



Korea and Norway. He is a life member of the Art Students League of New York and the Los Angeles Printmaking Society, and frequently presented painting

demonstrations and slide lectures to Idaho high school students.

**PHIL EASTMAN** arrived at Boise State in 1977 as a math professor and left 28 years later as dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, a position he had held since 1994. Eastman also served as interim dean, associate dean, director of interdisciplinary studies and chair of the Faculty Senate.



As dean he oversaw the growth of research grants and contracts to more than \$5.2 million. He initiated several new graduate and undergraduate pro-

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grams, including art history, environmental studies and creative writing, and worked to establish BSU's first Ph.D. program in geophysics.

**GARY ERICKSON** has taught electrical engineering courses at Boise State for more than 10 years and served as chair of the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department since it began in 1996. He initiated and is the director of the Edward T. Jaynes International Center for Bayesian Methods and Maximum Entropy at Boise State, promoting statistical methods in science and engineering. Before coming to BSU, Erickson taught at Seattle University and was a senior engineer with Boeing in Seattle and an instrumentation engineer for Oregon State University's School of Oceanography.

**JUDY FRENCH** has taught early childhood education at Boise State since 1976, and served as chair of the department from 2002-05. She revised the ECE program and developed an endorsement on the standard elementary education certificate. She also developed the bachelor's degree in ECE and successfully lobbied to get state certification for the early childhood/special education programs. She was twice awarded the BSU Alumni Association Excellence in Teaching Award and was recognized as a most influential professor from Phi Kappa Phi. She was on the board of the BSU Children's Center and the YMCA and was a consultant for Head Start and Boise Public Schools.

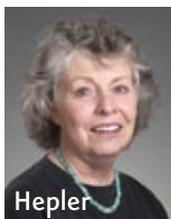
**MARVIN GABERT** started teaching the first courses in construction management in 1979 and helped build the program into an accredited department by 1983. As program director and later as department chair, he led its growth from eight students to more than 700 in what is now the Department of Construction Management in the College of Engineering. He was faculty adviser to the Associated General Contractors Student Chapter, which won several awards and was chosen ASBSU Outstanding Professional Organization of the Year in 2000. Gabert was chosen Outstanding Construction Management Faculty for 2002-03 and was twice chosen Boise State adviser of the year.

**WARREN HARBISON** has logged 29 years in the Philosophy Department. He



has taught just about every course in the department curriculum plus interdisciplinary humanities courses, which he team-taught with faculty from the English, History and Political Science departments. He has published at international, national and local levels in Kant-studies, medieval philosophy and oriental philosophy. Harbison earned the Distinguished Teaching Award from the College of Arts and Sciences and was a Top Ten Scholar's most honored professor. He is a member of Phi Kappa Phi.

**JUANITA HEPLER** has taught at Boise State since 1991, and served as coordinator of the master of social work program since 1992. She served on the university curriculum committee and chaired the MSW accreditation and admissions committees, and served on the boards of Booth Family Services and Port of Hope. She has published several articles in refereed journals on such topics as the social development of children and mainstreaming children with learning disabilities. She also wrote one book and co-authored another on social skill training in children.



**DAN HUFF** has taught at Boise State since 1970. He helped develop the curriculum for the MSW program and supervised social work students assigned to the Counseling Center. He created and administered the fieldwork program, and has published several articles in refereed journals, including "Single Parent Students" and "The Challenge of Poverty." He served on the advisory board of the Student volunteer Board, and was adviser to the organization of Student Social Workers and HOPE, a student organization for single parents. He was a consultant to Community House, Hays House and Family Court Services.

**RICHARD JOHNSON** has taught educational technology courses for the last six years. Prior to that, he worked for eight years in Academic Technologies and was on board when the Simplot/Micron Instructional Technology building opened. Johnson's research focused on techniques

for online instruction. Outside of his career at Boise State, Johnson served as a visiting professor at the University of Manitoba, a researcher at the U.S. Army Research Institute, and vice president and partner of a software development company.

**JERRY LACAVA**, professor of operations management in the College of Business and Economics, has been at Boise State since 1982. He served as associate dean of the



college from 1986-89 and chair of the department of Computer Information Systems and Production Management. LaCava has had numerous articles published in journals such as the *Quarterly Journal of Business and Economics*, the *Journal of Environmental Health and Wildlife Society Bulletin*. He co-authored a textbook, *Business Statistics: Why and When* and is a member of Decision Sciences Institute and Alpha Kappa Psi.

**PETER LICHTENSTEIN**, professor and former chair of the department of economics, came to Boise State in 1975. He worked in China and Vietnam as a guest professor, visiting lecturer, project specialist and Fulbright Scholar. He has published two books, *China at the Brink: The Political Economy of Reform and Retrenchment*



*in the Post-Mao Era and An Introduction to Post-Keynesian and Marxian Theories of Value and Price*. Lichtenstein was chosen Outstanding Teacher of the Year by the College of Business and Economics and honored faculty by the BSU Alumni Association. He was coach and adviser to the BSU ski racing team and faculty adviser to the Omicron Delta Epsilon Honor Society.

**JIM MAGUIRE** took his first job out of graduate school at Boise State and never left. A professor in the English department



since 1970, Maguire helped found the Western Writers Series and served as its co-editor. He wrote three pamphlets in the series and edited or co-edited four

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literary anthologies, including *The Literature of Idaho*. He was a section editor and contributor on *A Literary History of the American West* and *Updating the Literary West* and wrote "Fiction of the West" for the *Columbia History of the American Novel*. He received the BSU English Majors Association Outstanding Faculty Award in 1993.

Chemistry professor **ED MAJETKA** was the independent research mentor for numerous chemistry majors throughout his 30 years at Boise State. He received the Foundation Scholar Award for Teaching in 1996 and College of Arts and Sciences Award for Distinguished Teaching in 1991. He was honored by two Top Ten Scholars and four Phi Kappa Phi nominees as most influential professor. He was president of Sigma Xi and the Idaho Academy of Science. He is a member of the Northwest Regional American Chemical Society, a mead maker and a nationally certified beer judge.

Art professor **MERLIN MILLER** has taught at Boise State since 1982. He wrote two editions of a student study guide for Introduction to Art and created online classes in art and design. Miller was a member of the university's Faculty Honors and Awards Committee and Curriculum Committee, and was director of the art gallery. He has shown his work in several regional exhibits, presented art slide lectures in the Boise area and volunteered his art and design skills to area schools and parks.

**JOHN OWENS** served as Boise State's vice president for research from 2001-05 and the College of Engineering's associate dean for research for the past year. As VP,



Owens directed the Office of Research Administration and oversaw more than \$22 million in research funding. He also helped create programs to foster undergraduate and cross-disciplinary research. Owens organized and directed the National Science Foundation's Industry-University Cooperative Research Center in Washington, D.C., from 1989-91, and holds six U.S. and foreign patents. He was a fellow with the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers and a member of the American Society for Engineering Education, Tau Beta Pi, Eta Kappa Nu and Sigma Xi.

**DON PARKS**, professor of mechanical engineering, has taught at Boise State since 1973. He served on the Core Curriculum and Affirmative Action committees and was faculty adviser for the student section of ASHRAE (American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers). Parks worked to add courses in principles of HVAC and advanced thermodynamics to the mechanical engineering curriculum and pursued research in modern technology for photographing and displaying stereoscopic images. He is a member of the American Society of Heating, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Engineers and the American Society of Engineering Education.

Literacy professor **NORMA SADLER** guided many future teachers during her 33 years at Boise State. Along the way she published a book, *Multicultural Connections: Creative Writing, Literature and Assessment in the Elementary School*, and wrote a play, *Orpheus*, that was produced in 1995. Sadler received an Honors College award for recognition of honors teaching and an Alumni Association award for fostering academic excellence. She was also selected for inclusion in *Who's Who Among America's Teachers*. She won national and international recognition for her poetry, and her poem, "Montage," was placed in the archives of Kent State's May 4th Collection.



Art professor **BRENT SMITH** started his teaching career at Boise State 28 years ago. He has taught courses in photography and color printing, and has conducted research in digital and non-silver processes. Smith has been a practicing and exhibiting artist while at BSU and several of his photographs have been published in books and periodicals. His prints have been included in more than 80 exhibitions in 25 states and have received juror's awards in 10 regional and national exhibitions. His work is in the permanent collections of museums, universities, corporations and the Library of Congress.



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**CAROLYN THORSEN**, professor and chair of the Department of Educational Technology, helped found the department and was responsible for moving its master's program entirely online. Thorsen,



who has taught at Boise State for 19 years, was a key player on the Legislative Technology Initiative in Idaho schools. She has published one book, *TechTactics*, and co-authored another, *Virtual Decisions*. She was awarded the Silver Medallion Award from Boise State.

**JAMES WEATHERBY** is director of Boise State's Public Policy Center, acting director of the Social Science Research Center, and



associate professor of public administration and political science. He served as chair of the Department of Public Policy and Administration and co-authored two books, *The Urban West: Managing Growth and Decline* and *Governing Idaho: Politics, People, and Power*. Weatherby, who has taught at Boise State since 1983, was executive director of the Association of Idaho Cities and a member of the board of directors of the National League of Cities. He has served as commentator and consultant on government, politics and elections for radio, television and print.

**MARCIA WICKLOW-HOWARD** has taught at Boise State since 1975 and served as chair of the Biology Department from 1986-91. She taught courses in botany, mycology and plant morphology, and pursued research in mycology with an emphasis on fungal ecology, post-fire recovery of microbial soil crusts, and the ecology of micro-



organisms in semi-arid rangeland soils. Wicklow-Howard served as faculty athletic representative for BSU and was chair of the Intercollegiate Athletics Advisory Committee, where she was responsible for student-athlete eligibility certification and represented BSU in its association with the NCAA and Western Athletic Conference.

— Anna Fritz