



CAPITOL REVIEW

A WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE REPORT

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U OF I PRESIDENTIAL FINALISTS NAMED

The University of Idaho President Search Committee has announced the top five candidates for the U of I president position. The five finalist candidates will visit Moscow and Boise March 4-8 and include:

Christopher Callahan - Dean, Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communications and Vice Provost, Arizona State University, as well as Chief Executive Officer, Arizona PBS

Diane Chase - Executive Vice President and Provost, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Scott Green - Global Chief Operating and Financial Officer, Hogan Lovells

Elizabeth Spiller - Dean, College of Letters and Science, University of California, Davis

Paul Tikalsky - Dean, College of Engineering, Architecture and Technology, Oklahoma State University

Visit the presidential search website for more information on each finalist. Each finalist will meet with students, faculty, staff and community leaders.

SJM103 EMPHASIZES FREE TRADE

SJM103, a memorial between the Idaho Senate and House urges Congress to ratify the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) as soon as possible. Canada and the United States have long shared one of the largest trading relationships. Canada is the United States' largest export market, which is valued at \$320 billion in goods and services. 26% of Idaho's agricultural products are exported to Canada, and that is the largest export market for agriculture in Idaho. SJM103 also encourages President Trump's administration to renew its original waiver on steel and aluminum tariffs for Canada and Mexico. SJM103 calls on Mexico and Canada to remove retaliatory tariffs on all United States goods and services. Both countries placed tariffs on US goods during 2018 when the president placed tariffs on a number of goods being imported.

NEGOTIATION PERIOD

H121 creates a time period for potato processing producer associations and potato processors to negotiate, in good faith, an agreement for the purchase and sale of raw potatoes for processing. If a potato processor and a potato processing producer association fail to reach an agreement within the specified time period, then members of a potato processing producer association may negotiate individually with potato processors. Pre-season negotiations between potato processors and potato grower associations have taken place in Idaho since 1964. This negotiation period has allowed process potato growers to secure contracts in order to obtain financing and make production plans. H121 does not mandate that the potato processing producer association and the potato processor reach a contract. If the two parties do not reach a decision, then the processor is free to deal with individual growers. H121 also defines the target market as the frozen potato processing area. The legislation provides a forum for processors and growers to discuss critical issues such as sustainability, food safety, farm labor, environmental aspects and a wide range of topics relevant to the overall well-being of growers and the processing industry within Idaho. H121 passed through the House Agricultural Affairs Committee on Tuesday. Critics of H121 cited that the legislation did not maintain any enforcement mechanism.

AG ECONOMICS DEPARTMENT HEAD NAMED

The U of I College of Agriculture & Life Sciences Dean Michael Parrella announced the appointment of Chris McIntosh as the new department head for Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology (AERS). McIntosh has served in the role on an interim basis since the fall of 2017. Parrella said, "Thanks to his long history with the University of Idaho, Chris has a deep understanding and appreciation of U of I and CALS". Parrella continued, "Chris is dedicated to our students, growing enrollment and retention at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. In addition, his many years leading the AGECE 410 course has cemented his good standing among CALS' agricultural stakeholders across the state."

LIA WEEK IN BOISE

Leadership Idaho Agriculture was developed in 1985 and 988 members have graduated from the program since its inception. On Friday, the thirty members of Class 39 graduated completing seventeen days of training over four months. The graduates are from a variety of backgrounds and locations throughout the state of Idaho:

Bob Carter - Boise - Project Manager, Boise Project - Board of Control

Audra Cochran - Moscow - Assistant Director, Recruitment, U of I CALS

Trisha Cracroft - Boise - State Biologist, USDA-NRCS

Nikki Dalton - Pocatello - Assistant Professor/ Extension Educator, U of I CALS

Tobin Dixon - Star - Western Idaho Area Director
USDA-Rural Development

Kasia Duellman - Idaho Falls - Assistant Professor, U of I CALS

Bryce Durrant - Meridian - Production Ag

Jared Everson - Grangeville - Soil Conservationist
USDA-NRCS

Brody Fitch - Pocatello - CPA, Cooper Norman

Jenny Ford - Moscow - Executive Director, Moscow Chamber of Commerce

Jacob Gisler - Genesee - Seed Division Manager,
PNW Farmers Cooperative

Cody Hendrix - Idaho Falls - Relationship Manager,
Northwest Farm Credit Services

Tim Hesby - Gooding - Site Director, Glanbia
Nutritionals

Luis Hurtado - Rupert - Production Ag

Brooke Jacobson - Boise - Agriculture Prgm Mgr. -
Range Mgmt., Idaho State Dept. of Agriculture

Jarom Jemmett - Parma - Production Ag

Dain Johnson - Caldwell - Production Ag

Adrienne Lipka - Pocatello - Rangeland Management
Specialist, Bureau of Land Management

Maggie Malson - Parma - Production Ag

Louis Martinez - Boise - Supervisory Contact
Representative, Bureau of Land Management

Dennis Merrick - Nampa - Agricultural Representative,
Idaho Power

Katie Mosman - Grangeville - Ag Science and
Technology Instructor, Grangeville High School

Michael Ottley - Burley - Noxious Weed & Invasive
Species Supt.

Stephen Parrott - Nampa - Relationship Manager,
Northwest Farm Credit Services

Craig Phillips - Menan - Production Ag

Cole Riggers - Craigmont - Production Ag

Avery Robertson - Blackfoot - Loan Officer, Idaho
AgCredit

Ben Schumacher - Nezperce - Agronomy Sales
Representative, Seeds, Inc.

Aria Spear - Burley - Homemaker

Nic Wittman - Paul - Facility Material Manager,
Amalgamated Sugar Co. LLC

Applications are now being accepted for Class 40 and are due by August 1, 2019.

LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL AUDITS

Currently, there are audit requirements for all local governmental entities with some exceptions. These requirements are adhered to by all cities, counties, authorities and districts organized as separate legal and reporting entities under Idaho law. Some examples of separate legal entities are councils, commissions, districts and boards that are appointed or elected and tasked with fiscal management responsibilities of the local governmental entity. One of the exceptions is for governing bodies whose annual expenditures, from all its sources, do not exceed \$100,000 in a fiscal year. These entities are not required to participate in the same costly "yellow book" audit process but have the option of arranging a financial review. The benefit of a financial review administered by an authorized provider is that they are more readily performed and cost much less. H184 was introduced to increase the cap for local government entities from \$100,000 to \$150,000. With the large number of districts, boards and commissions represented by agriculture and natural resources in Idaho, it is important that burdens are lightened for those entities that cannot afford audits, which can represent 5%, 10% or even 15% of their fiscal-year budget.

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