



Letter from the

President

Office of the President, president@uidaho.edu

January 27, 2023

Dear Vandals,

The University of Idaho's 10th day enrollment numbers for the spring semester posted earlier this week and we've maintained nearly all of our record-breaking growth from the fall semester. Our undergraduate enrollment is up 3.5% compared to the same time last year and our overall enrollment is up 2.1% over last year. In addition, our early application numbers for the fall of 2023 point to further growth.

The immense value of the U of I experience continues to attract outstanding students like Martha Smith. She shared her heartfelt sentiments about the Vandal Family with the ASUI Senate last week.

"The Vandal Family is something used as figurative language in recruiting for this university a lot," said Smith, a sophomore from Kooskia who spent time this week at the state Capitol talking with legislators and advocating for the U of I. "It isn't a necessary group of people, it isn't a fund and it isn't a scholarship. It is an overwhelming sense of love and devotion for this school and its students."

"Before the tragic events of Nov. 13 took place, we knew how we felt at football games, walking on campus and in class. Now, we know how it feels in the worst of times — which I would argue demonstrates what the Vandal Family means even more."

Despite early media narratives to the contrary, the vast majority of our students recognize the work we have done to keep our community safe. They also appreciate the tremendous support and unmatched learning environment for which the university is known.

The U of I offers students an exceptional educational value and the Vandal Family pulls together even in the wake of unimaginable tragedy. Our student support staff and our faculty stepped up with extra care and accommodation for students in need. U of I Dean of Students Blaine Eckles said he wasn't surprised by the enrollment numbers because most students want to be in their classrooms, in their dorm rooms and with their friends.

"In discussions with students, prior to the break and after, they all indicated that being 'in community' with one another was incredibly important to them," Eckles said. "While they had concerns for their safety and security, they also want to be together to provide support to one another."

We're immensely proud of the unity and resilience of the Vandal Family over the past two months. We have shown that, even when faced with unimaginable tragedy, we are indeed Brave, Bold and #VandalStrong.

Go Vandals!

C. Scott Green

President



Snapshots

Entomology club puts anglers on the fly

The U of I's Aldrich Entomology Club worked with student members of the American Fisheries Society to create a series of educational displays, including detailed fly patterns. The displays will be used by the Clearwater Fly Casters for community education, and at fisheries society functions and in displays at the U of I's College of Natural Resources. [Learn more.](#)

UI, WSU team up to develop low-cost virtual fence

New technology in development at the U of I and Washington State University aims to provide a low-cost virtual fence option for livestock and land management. Karen Launchbaugh, director of the U of I Rangeland Center, discussed the project at the Range Livestock Symposium earlier this month.

[Learn more.](#)



The U of I will host the statewide Three Minute Thesis Competition next month. Students from the U of I, Idaho State University and Boise State University will compete to see who can best distill their research into a one-slide, three minute presentation.



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