



Letter from the

President

Office of the President, president@uidaho.edu

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Dear Vandals,

Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories opened its impressive new production facility just south of Moscow earlier this month. But SEL's presence in Moscow is nothing new. The company's partnership with the University of Idaho goes back decades and continues to engage Vandal students.

Founded in Pullman by Edmund Schweitzer III in 1982, SEL has grown into a worldwide company specializing in digital products and systems designed to make electric power safer, more reliable and economical.

In 1989, SEL began supporting U of I students and the company has invested more than \$3 million since then. This semester, 37 students are interning at SEL and many of them will go on to work at the company in a wide range of fields. SEL continues to develop U of I talent and provide rewarding career opportunities.

"The partnership with SEL is really valuable for our students," said Brian Johnson, the SEL Endowed Chair in

Power Engineering. "They get a chance to learn about some of the real world challenges for projects. They learn the theory and techniques in the classroom, and by working with SEL's professionals they see how they're applied."

Since 2015, the company has provided funding for more than five research projects led by Johnson and others, and regularly sponsors the annual Engineering Design Expo, where students display their senior capstone projects. And SEL's presence on the Palouse means graduates don't have to go far to find a world-class employer. More than 550 SEL employees attended the U of I.

In 2020, SEL and the U of I teamed up to bolster cybersecurity education. The \$2.5 million project directly supports U of I programs and established contracted research projects to develop cyber-secure industrial control systems.

"As the number of cyberattacks and the sophistication of our adversaries continues to grow, so does the need to create a robust pipeline of highly skilled security professionals," said SEL Chief Executive Officer Dave Whitehead. "This partnership will help achieve this while creating great career and research opportunities for students."

SEL's new building in Moscow will provide further opportunities for students through internships and job opportunities. The 162,000 square-foot building will employ about 60 people in a wide range of engineering and manufacturing roles. It opens up even more opportunities to expand on a fruitful partnership.

"SEL's been hugely supportive of our students and our research," Johnson said. "Our prospective students coming in hear about internship opportunities with SEL and it's a very positive thing. We're grateful to have them so close."

As one of the region's largest and most important employers, we are grateful for SEL's commitment to our students and graduates. These partnerships are more than transactions, they are long-term relationships benefiting not only SEL, the U of I, and our students, but the entire Palouse economic corridor.

Go Vandals!

C. Scott Green
President



Snapshots

Idaho Snowmobile Challenge Team second at nationals

A group of U of I students placed second overall in the Spark-Ignition category of the 2023 Society of Automotive Engineers' Clean Snowmobile Challenge. It was the Vandal group's 11th year placing on the podium at the national competition, which sees 16 teams compete to produce solutions to make cleaner, quieter and more efficient snowmobiles. The competition took place last month in Eagle River, Wisconsin. [Learn more.](#)

Musical animation project combines art,

technology and U of I ingenuity

Collaboration between students in the College of Art and Architecture and the Lionel Hampton School of Music led to a stunning concert experience. Virtual technology/design students worked with music composition students to create music that reflects the tone and feel of the animation. [Learn more.](#)

Library exhibit highlights U of I women's history

An exhibit at the U of I Library celebrates "Brave and Bold women in University of Idaho History." KT Turner, a graduate student in the Department of History, helped create the exhibit, which features several pioneers in U of I history and commemorates the 50th anniversary of the U of I Women's Center. [Learn more.](#)



The U of I offers more than 70 degree programs that are distinctly accredited by their respective accrediting agencies. The university is accredited by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities.



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University of Idaho

875 Perimeter Drive
Moscow, ID 83844
info@uidaho.edu

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