



Letter from the

President

Office of the President, president@uidaho.edu

June 23, 2023

Dear Vandals,

The University of Idaho is leading statewide and regional strategies alongside top industry to build Idaho's next generation of highly skilled semiconductor engineers and technicians.

Micron recently announced the formation of the Northwest University Semiconductor Network, a partnership focused on collectively developing our national semiconductor industry's workforce. We are excited to bring our exceptional research and talent to this powerful innovation ecosystem.

As one of the founding member institutions, the U of I brings nationally recognized faculty expertise and a strong foundation for enhancing semiconductor and microelectronics education and workforce training in our state and region.

For 40 years, our university has partnered with Micron to ensure our students receive the highest levels of technical training and education needed to support industry needs.

"We're proud to partner with U of I's College of Engineering to bring world-class undergraduate and graduate education programs and investment in research across the field of microelectronics that will help expand STEM careers for all who will lead the 21st century, including underrepresented communities," said Scott DeBoer, executive vice president of Micron's Technology and Products organization.

Strengthening U.S. technology and semiconductor leadership requires investment and commitment to driving the pace of lab to fab innovation."

Almost a decade ago, the U of I launched its [Next Generation Microelectronics Research Center](#), furthering foundational and emerging education and research affecting the microelectronics and semiconductor ecosystems. The U of I is the only institution in the Northwest that has an endowment agreement with Micron to provide a continuous stream of funding into this state-of-the-art research facility.

Our faculty have integrated expertise in real-world microelectronic device fabrication and packaging and interconnected technologies. Their research focus areas earn recognition and funding from Micron, NASA, the National Science Foundation, the U.S. Department of Defense and more.

Our students have access to three clean rooms on the Moscow campus. These contamination-controlled spaces allow them to develop expertise in microelectronic device design, fabrication and packaging, cybersecurity, plant safety and related technologies.

In support of the 2022 CHIPS and Science Act to revitalize domestic semiconductor manufacturing and secure U.S. national and economic security, Micron last year announced plans to build a leading-edge memory manufacturing facility,

or fab, in Boise. This new fab will require a diverse mix of U of I graduates with advanced and highly specialized skills, increased research investments and deep faculty expertise in semiconductors, to ensure semiconductor research, innovation and manufacturing success in Idaho and the U.S.

Together, we are taking bold action to advance state-of-the-art memory device fabrication and train the next generation of the memory device research and development workforce.

Go Vandals!

C. Scott Green
President



Snapshots

Vandal Rodeo Club provides life skills, lasting memories

The U of I's rodeo club has grown from three to around 20 members over the past two years. The dedicated ropers, barrel racers, bronc riders, steer wrestlers and bull riders compete in the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association, balancing school work with long hours practicing and taking care of their horses. [Learn more.](#)

New experimental hopyard opens in Parma

The Parma Research and Extension Center is home to an experimental hopyard that will host trials evaluating pest and disease threats facing Idaho's hop farmers. The short-trellis hop yard was highlighted during a field day and tour this week.

[Learn more.](#)

Gauthier's video work earns international acclaim

U of I Professor Jean-Marc Gauthier's video project, Moments in Nature, showcases a new way to blend animation with virtual reality. The short video production was recognized by SIGGRAPH Asia as one of the best 11 submissions worldwide in the Real-Time Live category. [Learn more.](#)



The U of I will have a major presence at Spokane Hoopfest this weekend, sponsoring the Vandal Block at the corner of Spokane Falls Boulevard and Wall Street.



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