

MCCLURE CENTER

MARCH 2024 NEWSLETTER



University of Idaho

McClure Center for
Public Policy Research

Dear Friends of the McClure Center,

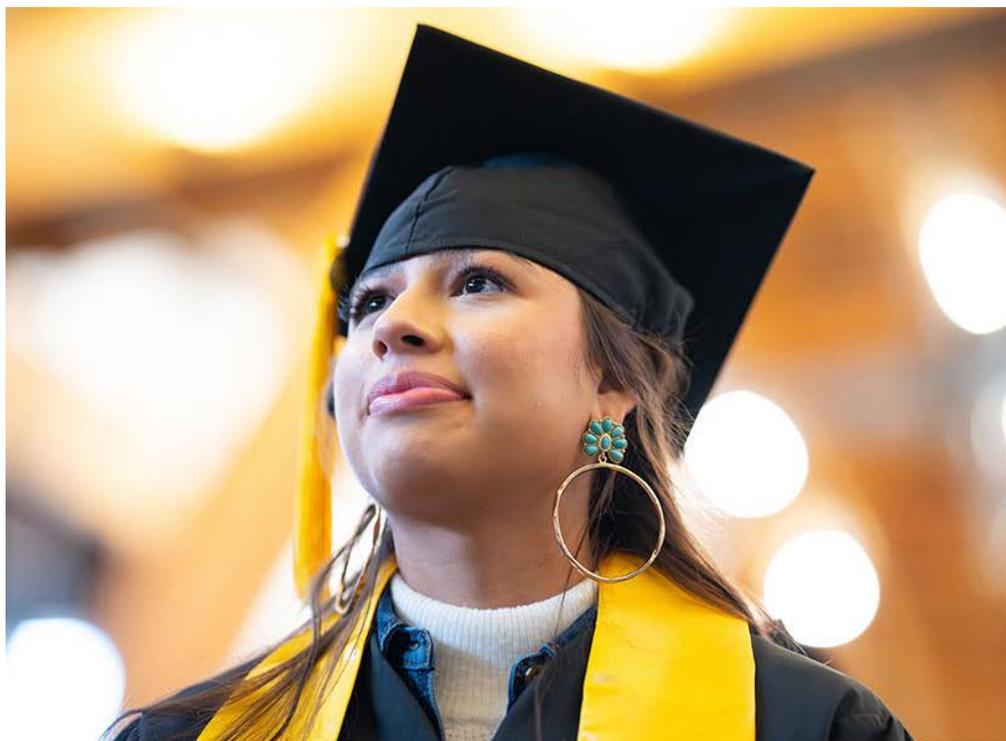
The McClure Center is committed to creating and supporting life-changing student programs. These robust, high-level applied learning and research experiences focus on local, state, national and international policy, as well as connections with communications, history, journalism and law.

Join us to support our undergraduate student programs on Vandal Giving Day 2024. Together, on April 2-3, we can make sure Vandals have what they need to explore, grow and thrive.

Your donation will directly fund McClure Center student programs.

Your partnership not only makes a difference to our students, it makes a significant, lasting impact by preserving Senator McClure's legacy of working across the aisle.

To donate, visit the McClure Center's **Vandal Giving Day** page or contact Kate Walker, McClure Center development director, 208-364-4550 and kwalker@uidaho.edu.



**VANDAL
GIVING DAY**

APRIL 2 & 3, 2024

Spring 2024 Students

The McClure Center welcomed four students in January.

Legal Extern



SEAN FALCONER,
MCCLURE CENTER LEGAL EXTERN

Sean Falconer, a U of I College of Law 3L (Boise) is spending this semester with the McClure Center as a legal extern. He is supporting the **Gem State Air Quality Initiative** and working with a supervising attorney in the natural resources field.

In Sean's words:

"I was born and raised in North Dakota and earned my B.S. in criminal justice from North Dakota State University. I furthered my education by receiving a M.A. in criminal justice from Washington State University with emphases in quantitative statistics, corrections and re-entry programs.

Upon graduation, I worked as a faculty member in the Boise State University Department of Criminal Justice, teaching a variety of classes, including research methods, statistics and criminological theories. I also spent nearly a decade working for the State of Idaho, originally for the Idaho Department of Corrections, then for the Administrative Office of the Idaho Supreme Court.

I am in my third year of law school and have a strong interest in policymaking at the state and local level. In my spare time, I enjoy being outdoors and spending time with my family."

Undergraduate Students

Since 2015, the McClure Center has partnered with the **U of I School of Journalism and Mass Media (JAMM)** to bring undergraduate student reporters to Boise for a semester of professional development. Legislative interns are JAMM News Service correspondents, covering the Idaho legislative session and other happenings at the State Capitol. Legislative interns join the Idaho Press Club and receive full press credentials to use while reporting on policy construction at the State Capitol, with stories published in rural newspapers across Idaho.



SOPHIE SPANBAUER, JAMM-MCCLURE LEGISLATIVE INTERN

This year, **Sophie Spanbauer**, a senior majoring in public relations with minors in political science and history, is the JAMM-McClure Legislative Intern.

Sophie *"enjoys spending time with her golden retriever, fishing on the Boise River and volunteering at the humane society. She is thrilled to be spending this semester with the Idaho State Legislature."*

New this year, the McClure Center has partnered with the **U of I Department of Politics and Philosophy** and the Office of Government Relations to launch a Government Relations Internship. This year, two students, Erika Amaral and David Berriochoa, joined the U of I office in the Capitol Annex to spend legislative session focused on the fast-paced research needs of the U of I's Office of Government Relations.



ERIKA AMARAL, GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS INTERN

In **Erika Amaral's** words:

"I am a first-year student coming in with my associate degree. I am majoring in political science with a minor in Spanish. I am also a Diversity Scholar here at the University, as well as in the Prelaw Society, Association of Latino Professionals of America (ALPFA), Organización de Estudiantes Latino Americanos (OELA) and Movimiento Activista Social (MAS). I also enjoy reading, being outside and talking to everyone!"



DAVID BERRIOCHOA, GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS INTERN

David Berriochoa is a senior at the U of I studying political science and Spanish.

In David's words:

"I was born and raised in Boise, Idaho and I am the middle boy between an older and a younger sister. We all attended St. Joes Catholic K-8 school then Bishop Kelley. I am really hoping to gain some practical career experience and build connections for networking through this internship. In ten years, I see myself practicing some type of law and I believe that this internship will help me gain the discipline I need to pursue my dreams to my utmost capability."

New McClure Center "Staff"



POPPY NEILL, NEW STAFF

The McClure Center is pleased to welcome another mini-member, Poppy Neill, to the team. Poppy is honored to share a birthday with Senator McClure (Dec. 27th) and looks forward to being a Vandal!

We invite you to join the McClure Center on [LinkedIn!](#) Here, you can learn about our students, research, events and more and follow Vandal Giving Day updates!

Warmest wishes,

Katherine

Katherine Himes, Ph.D.

Director, James A. and Louise McClure Center for Public Policy Research

Based in Boise, the **University of Idaho's James A. and Louise McClure Center** for Public Policy Research conducts evidence-based research, informs public dialogue and policy, facilitates collaborations and engages students in learning about public policy making. The Center's approach to addressing society's complex issues sustains Senator and Louise McClure's legacy of thoughtfully pursuing bipartisan collaboration and sound public policy.