

Former student teacher supervisor learned early to blaze her own trail

Barbara Dargatz, a former supervisor of student teachers for Boise State, understands the struggle to be a good educator. It started with her own.

Dargatz' father moved his family from Kansas to Oregon during the Great Depression to settle near a university.

"He reasoned that if he could not afford college for his kids, he would put them where they could help themselves. And we did," Dargatz said.

Dargatz earned her bachelor's degree in business from Oregon State University in 1946 and paid her way by working in the university's publication office. She completed a fifth year in education in order to fulfill her goal of becoming a teacher.

In the years that followed, Dargatz taught, worked in business, earned a master's degree, and married. In 1972, she and husband Robert moved to Idaho's Wood River Valley to be close to the Sun Valley ski slopes.

"As a person who gets inspiration from the outdoors, I have climbed Grand Teton and most of the peaks in

the Sawtooth Mountains. I credit my husband and climbing companion for having accomplished that goal."

In her early years in the Wood River Valley schools, Dargatz worked with a colleague to write a vocational education grant that not only provided \$20,000 worth of teaching equipment, but also paid half her salary to run the work experience program.

When the principal at Wood River High School left for another position, he recommended that Dargatz replace him.

"But the school board had a different idea about women serving as secondary principals," she said. "They hired the male junior high principal for the job without following any guidelines for equal opportunity, even though their stationery declared them to be an equal opportunity employer."

So Dargatz sued. The school board agreed to a settlement. The board appointed Dargatz as a junior high school principal and paid her legal bills. "The most positive result

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Barbara Dargatz, right, listens to spring 2010 graduate Ashley Rowe.

Barbara Dargatz career high marks

- ▶ Established the first adult night classes in Blaine County. Eventually these became the basis of the county's campus of the College of Southern Idaho.
- ▶ Helped establish a cooperative work experience program, which placed students in businesses for paid work.
- ▶ Created a winter sports physical education program to acquaint students with winter sports found in mountain areas.
- ▶ Founded new chapters of the National Honor Society at both Borah and Capital high schools in Boise and a chapter of the Junior Honor Society at Wood River Junior High School.
- ▶ Served as division chair for business in Boise public schools.

Two students and a graduate first for Boise State at NASA

Two students and one recent graduate in the College of Education became Boise State's first-ever participants in NASA's Pre-Service Teacher Institute (PSTI) this summer.

The three participants were:

- Alicia "Lalli" Martinez, a spring 2010 graduate with dual certification in bilingual and elementary education. She is a second-generation college student from March Air Reserve Base, Calif.
- Carely Leon, a bilingual education major also working toward certification in elementary education with a Spanish endorsement. She is a first-generation college student from Culiacan in the Mexican state of Sinaloa and will graduate in spring 2011.
- Matea Gellings, an elementary education major with a minor in English. She is a first-generation college student from Idaho Falls and will graduate in fall 2010.

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Barbara Dargatz

From the Dean's Desk

Fall at the college offers new beginnings, challenges

Fall is a time for new beginnings on the Boise State campus and at the College of Education. It is an exciting and energizing time.

Highly capable students are embarking on their college careers. Advanced students are beginning the final year of their college careers before launching their professional lives.

We also welcome new faculty and staff and look forward to their contributions to our commitment to prepare students who are ready to take their places as innovators, educators, and leaders in service to their communities. Returning faculty are ready with fresh ideas inspired by experience. Collegiality and collaboration across the college, the university, and among our community partners strengthens our success.

The College of Education often faces challenges that test our ingenuity and creativity. We are making a major shift to a model of continuous improvement in all of our programs and this will impact our Strategic Plan as well. We have begun the review of our Strategic Plan, Vision, Goals, and Objectives. The college's faculty have completed their first round of reviews on these statements. We will share the faculty's comments regarding the plan with our Advisory Council and ask for their suggestions. Because of our outstanding faculty and Advisory Council, I am confident that we will not only meet the challenges we face, but excel in doing so.

One area where our faculty has excelled is in securing more than \$12.1 million in grants and awards for fiscal year 2010. The fourth quarter numbers were even higher than we expected. This is an impressive accomplishment.

If you would like to know more about our vision for the College of Education and how you can contribute, I would be pleased to talk with you. You are welcome to contact me at 208-426-1611.

Diane Boothe, Professor and Dean
College of Education



Former student teacher continued

was an awakening of school boards in Idaho," she said. "Women now serve in administrative positions throughout the state."

As a junior high principal, Dargatz kept students' needs in mind. For example, she scheduled all 8th grade American history classes at the same hour. In that way, students could rotate to a different teacher each quarter. No student was stuck with a teacher with whom they might have a personality conflict. The rotation also exposed students to different teaching styles and exposed teachers to a variety of learning styles.

After her retirement from the junior high halls, Dargatz spent 20 years supervising student teachers in Blaine County for Boise State and other universities in the Northwest. Dargatz said supervising student teachers was her first love. "I was eager to discuss teaching strategies and loved observing skilled and innovative prospective teachers."

Dargatz continues to volunteer in her community. She also handles bookkeeping and secretarial work for two blind friends, one more than 100 years old. In return, the friends agreed to make quarterly payments to two scholarships in education Dargatz established at Boise State.

Dargatz said her life and career show that "Anyone can do anything they really want to do and events in our lives define who we are."

Teaching: Then and Now

Some things have changed since Barbara Dargatz began teaching about a half of a century ago. Some things haven't.

"There were, and are, dozens of dedicated, caring teachers in all our schools, often working against terrific odds such as lack of materials and space," Dargatz said. "But the intrinsic caring and desire to inspire each student still exists among sincere, dedicated teachers."

She noted that research during the past 50 years has helped teachers understand better how children learn and which learning path is best for each child. Dargatz said she is impressed with the research being done on which to base curriculum and teaching methods and the impact it has throughout the nation.

"I see a new level of excitement and innovation at Boise State because of the leadership of President Bob Kustra," Dargatz said. "He set the goal of the university becoming a research hub and deans such as Diane Boothe have taken the idea and are making it a reality."

Research, innovations advance EdTech leadership

A revamped website for the Department of Educational Technology (EdTech) will "rock your socks," in the words of Lisa Dawley, EdTech's chair. Set for release in October, the redesigned website will be just one highly visible part of the department's leadership in research and innovation in online teaching and learning.

Boise State President Bob Kustra has focused on innovation and creativity as key themes for the university. Kustra also has pointed to EdTech programs as examples of innovation and new models of higher education.

Dawley said "Boise State and EdTech are making the promise of online learning a reality." Some of EdTech's current initiatives include:

- GameStudio, a research lab to test educational games and learning.
- Young Baek, a distinguished new faculty member from South Korea, will create GameStudio. He also will offer four innovative new courses

U.S.-China summits deepen educational ties

Leon Maynard, president of the Idaho Council on Economic Education, would like to see more education students and teachers become involved in the International Economic Summit programs of the council.

"Besides teaching the free market system," Maynard said, "the Economic Summit program builds leadership skills, advances academic freedom, and connects students and professionals with their peers and colleagues around the world."

The Idaho Council is housed at Boise State under the support of the College of Education and the College of Business and Economics.

An International Economic Summit for college and advanced high school students at Boise State on Oct. 28 is one way students can become more involved in international education. During this special Economic Summit sponsored by the Idaho Council and

the Frank Church Institute, students focus on international trade and economic issues between the United States and China. Each team is charged with the task of improving its country's standard of living within a simulated economy. Teams will compete and cooperate in

activities including import

and export trading, forming regional trade alliances, borrowing and repaying development loans and more. They also will compete for a \$1,000 award, which will go to the winning team.

Thirty Idaho students, teachers, and professors participated in a similar competition in Shanghai in June. "Mainly business students have been involved," Maynard said. "But some eventually decided to gear their careers more toward international education."

Maynard said there are opportunities to deepen educational ties between China, Idaho, and Boise State. The summit program in China started with one Chinese high school and has now forged relationships with 30 top high schools in that country. More than 350 Chinese students participated in the Shanghai Economic Summit this year.

Next summer Shanghai again will be a site for an economic summit. But Maynard said the Idaho Council expects to add another summit at Beijing and perhaps one at a third city.

For information about the economic summit, contact Maynard at 426-1810 or LeonMaynard@boisestate.edu. Also see www.econsummit.org.



Eagle and Dragon, U.S.-China relations

In association with the International Economic Summit, the 27th annual Frank Church Conference is presenting the "Eagle and Dragon: The United States and China in the 21st Century."

The Oct. 28 conference features a number of China experts who will address current political, economic and cultural relations between China and the United States.

The conference is sponsored by the College of Social Sciences and Public Affairs, the College of Education, and the College of Business and Economics. For more information about the conference, contact Garry Wenske, executive director, Frank Church Institute, 426-2941 or GarryWenske@boisestate.edu.



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in educational game and mobile-learning design and integration.

- Software that allows students to track their learning success using quests based over a variety of games.
- Mobile learning games that interact with real life to address issues of global warming, hunger and poverty.
- Research in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) topics.
- A fully online doctorate in education with an emphasis in educational technology, which is pending approval by the Idaho State Board of Education.
- Partnership agreements with major

professional organizations that will provide students free memberships and opportunities for networking and professional development.

- A new Office of Student Outreach Services, designed to support all students' needs, from admission to graduation. Kellie Branson is the manager of the office.

"We are engaging learners to understand the implications of technology in today's society," Dawley said. "Our initiatives empower students to think and also support students as they find their own learning and career paths."





Paul Courtright

Elementary education skills applied every day to help save Africans' sight

EDITOR'S NOTE: Paul Courtright, '78, served in the Peace Corps after graduating from Boise State. He earned a master's degree in public health from Johns Hopkins University and a doctorate from the University of California, Berkeley, also in public health. Courtright and his wife, Susan Lewallen, are co-directors of the Kilimanjaro

Centre for Community Ophthalmology (KCCO), which they founded in 2001 at Tumaini University in Moshi, Tanzania. Courtright also teaches throughout eastern Africa. More info about KCCO can be found at www.kcco.net.

Boise State graduate Paul Courtright has found that the skills he learned for a career in elementary education 32 years ago also are valuable beyond grade school classrooms. They apply equally well to a career in health and medical education in Africa, where Courtright is a co-director of the Kilimanjaro Centre for Community Ophthalmology (KCCO).

"The skills I gained when my hair tended to be thicker up top are being applied in my work virtually every day," he said.

Medical and health education in Africa relies heavily on the sit-and-listen approach, Courtright noted. For example, during two years of training in ophthalmic nursing, nurses spend just two to three weeks working in an eye clinic. So Courtright and his staff have to organize retraining of many people who work with KCCO.

"We have dedicated a huge amount of time and effort in helping our faculty and staff learn how to transfer knowledge and skills," he said. "We are trying to create a team with the skills to help people learn and what that means to helping patients see."

Courtright said students often take for granted the critical thinking skills they gain when they get a degree in education. "But

tracing then welding the links between teaching, knowledge, skills, attitude, tools, and capacity is just as essential as knowing how to teach," he said. "Somewhere along the line, we did learn how to make the link between teaching and use of knowledge by our students."

The problem-solving nature of case studies seems to be a very effective way to help people learn how to use information, Courtright said. Case studies also show how evidence is important to drive decisions and how to justify the tough decisions. "We have drafted many one-page case studies that reflect the reality people face in their work," he said.

"Anyone who has taught in Africa knows that the state of education and teaching can be fairly dire," Courtright said. "Changing it will be done one, often painful step at a time."

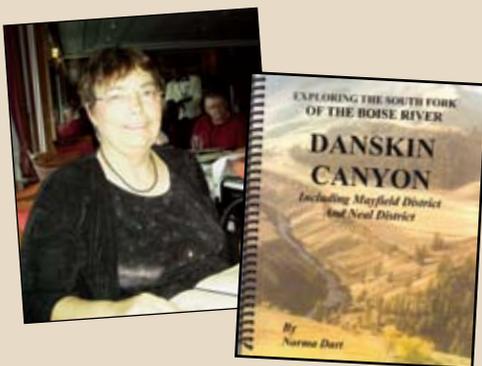


Mount Kilimanjaro overlooks KCCO

Alumni in the News

1960s

NORMA DART, elementary education '67, has published *Exploring the South Fork of the Boise River, Danskin Canyon, Mafield and Neal Areas*. She is currently writing a book on Smith Prairie. She lives in Prairie, Idaho.



1970s

THOMAS SHEA, master's elementary education '74, closed his law practice in Lincoln, Nebraska, to become a song writer and music producer. He is producing the

second CD of Justice, a 12-year-old pop singer.

1990s

M. KATHERINE JONES, elementary education '96, currently lives in Challis, Idaho, works for the U.S. Census Bureau, and sells her paintings. After graduating from Boise State she graduated with honors from Idaho State University with a bachelor's degree in early childhood education.



2000s

MEGAN THOMASON, elementary education '08, received

the Distinguished Staff Award for First-Year Teacher from the Topeka Public Schools for the 2009-2010 school year.

MARK ELLIS, master's Educational Technology '09, is living in Lexington, Kentucky, and searching for the right opportunity in educational technology, e-learning, instructional design, or related field.

BRENLEY BOX, elementary education '10, is teaching 5th grade at Riverside Elementary School in Boise.

We want to hear from you. Please send us updates about your career and your achievements and we will include them in Alumni news. Be sure to include your name and the year you graduated. Send along a current photo (300 dpi resolution) and we will include that with your update. Send your updates to [Ralph Poore at \[ralphpoore@boisestate.edu\]\(mailto:ralphpoore@boisestate.edu\)](mailto:RalphPoore@boisestate.edu).



Aiding Haiti earthquake victims holds lessons for counselor grad student

Months after the epic Haiti earthquake killed 300,000 people, about 1.5 million Haitians remain homeless. The task of rebuilding can look overwhelming. But Boise State Counselor Education graduate student Laura Mundy found that the long journey to recovery began with the small steps of helping one family rebuild their home.

"I thought I would feel discouraged because we could only help one family in a sea of need," said Mundy who led 14 volunteers on service trip to Port-au-Prince in April. "But I felt like helping one family was a big and important step. We have to start somewhere, why not with this family?"

Over the course of a week, the volunteers built a 14-foot by 16-foot home for a family of nine. They are considered middle-class by Haitian standards, but their toilet consisted of a bucket. They had slept in tents since the Jan. 12 quake because two of their children survived being trapped in the rubble when their schools collapsed. "They have not felt safe being indoors since

then," Mundy said.

The quake destroyed about 1,300 schools, so the volunteers organized a camp for 60 neighborhood kids a day. "We organized crafts and games, fed them lunch, and sent them home with packets of rice and soy," Mundy said.

"What I have learned in the master's in Counselor Education program was invaluable to my experience," she said. "I was able to use my training on multicultural awareness, which helped me to understand the oppression that has been occurring in this culture since its inception."

Mundy said "Haiti has become the yardstick with which I will measure all of my life decisions. It has helped me to discern needs from wants and given me a clear vision of what it means to live with a purpose."

After earning her master's degree, Mundy plans to become school counselor. She also plans to return to Haiti. "This will continue to be a life-long journey for me and my career."

View Haiti earthquake photos

Laura Mundy has posted a photo album of her volunteer service trip to Haiti on the web. You may view the photos at <http://picasaweb.google.com/lauramundy23/Haiti2010?feat=directlink>.

NASA Institute continued

Martinez and Gellings were accepted for the institute at the NASA Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas. Leon was accepted for the institute at the NASA Ames Research Center in Moffett Field, Calif.

"Science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) can be challenging subjects," Martinez said. "I discovered how to integrate hands-on activities with my students and to help them become critical thinkers so they may become independent and gain confidence."

Leon was impressed with how her team at Ames collaborated. "Each of us contributed in figuring out exactly how we would complete the mission. We could see how we can all have diverse ideas but once we put them together we came up with something that reflects us all."

Gellings noted what young children in a classroom may not realize. "Teachers are learners also. My teaching philosophy is always changing because we learn new things, as we did at NASA."

During two-week residential sessions, the three Boise State students engaged in aerospace, mathematics, and science activities. They also toured NASA facilities and worked with scientists, engineers, astronauts, technicians, education specialists and university faculty.

Boise State became a participant in NASA's institute thanks to the efforts of Barbara Morgan, veteran teacher and former astronaut who now is Boise State's distinguished educator in residence.

"These institutes give our students exceptional experiences as they become teachers, and Boise State is proud to be so well represented in this national program," Morgan said.

"We are highly impressed with the caliber of individuals in this program," said College of Education Dean Diane Boothe. "We are encouraged that their participation will make a difference in the lives of the students they teach. We also are confident that their success will motivate and challenge other Boise State students to high ideals."



Left-Lalli Martinez,
Right-Carely Leon,
Below-Matea Gellings



Rural Idaho teachers' research advances Response to Intervention

Research on Response to Intervention (RTI) by two rural Idaho special education teachers may give the state's secondary schools improved models to help struggling students succeed.

Tools to quickly gauge students' skills and guide teachers' response are not as well developed for secondary students as they are for elementary pupils, said Betty Fredericksen, special education and federal programs director at North Valley Charter School in Gooding, Idaho, and Pam Galow, extended resource special education teacher and department chair at Burley Junior High. So the two educators have been leading research projects in their districts to put current and practical tools in place to improve student performance.

Galow's project involves monitoring the progress of pre-algebra skills in seventh- and eighth-graders. Fredericksen is looking at how well seventh-graders understand their science books. "Science textbooks and books for general reading often are written very differently," she said.

Galow noted that "The promise of RTI is that students no longer have to wait-to-fail to receive the help they need." Fredericksen said "We are asking 'Is what we're doing helping? If not, what will help?'"

Fredericksen and Galow decided to start their projects about a year ago after attending a summer professional development institute offered by the Technology Accentuated Transformative Education for Rural Specialists (TATERS) program. The TATERS program is based in the Department of Special Education and Early Childhood Studies in the College of Education.

TATERS, in partnership with the Idaho State Department of Education, also created the Idaho Special Education Mentor Network to support special education teachers in rural districts. As mentor teachers, Fredericksen and Galow used the network's online tools to build professional relationships and share expertise. "The network has recharged my energy and prodded me to improve," Galow said at this summer's professional development institute.

Fredericksen and Galow plan to present their research findings at the national conference of the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) next April. CEC is the largest international professional organization dedicated to improving the educational success of children with disabilities or gifts and talents.

What Is RTI?

Response to Intervention (RTI) is one approach to help struggling students. Struggling students get additional instruction or intervention at increasing levels of intensity. Teachers monitor students' progress at each level and use assessment tools to help them decide if a student needs more instruction or intervention in general education or referral to special education.



Pam Galow and Betty Fredericksen

For more information about the TATERS program, contact project coordinator Carrie Semmelroth at 208-426-2818 or carrieseammelroth@boisestate.edu.

Success in math, science goal of learning facilitators

Students who want careers in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) often face a critical juncture in so-called gateway math and science classes. These are classes students need to successfully complete to reach their career destinations.



Louis Nadelson

Next spring, Boise State will begin preparing and placing students as peer tutors to help their fellow students through the gateway classes.

"Use of peers as learning facilitators has been shown to significantly improve students' learning and attitudes in STEM courses," said Louis Nadelson, assistant professor in the Department of Curriculum Instruction and Foundational Studies. "Facilitators help faculty to create classrooms where students can interact with one another, jointly solve problems, and express and defend their ideas."

The learning facilitator program is part of a commitment toward research on the teaching and learning in STEM supported by a five-year, \$1.25 million grant awarded to Boise State by the National Science Foundation (NSF).



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Math project shows struggling students path to excellence

A Boise State project that showed how students struggling to learn math can be taught to excel is now serving as a model to improve the teaching of math across Idaho.

The Developing Mathematical Thinking (DMT) project involved four schools in the Caldwell School District from 2007 to 2010. DMT staff worked with three elementary schools for the three years and added one middle school in the final two years of the \$900,000 project. The project was funded by a Math and Science Partnership grant from the U.S. Department of Education and the Idaho State Department of Education.

Sam Strother, the DMT associate director and an instructor at the Center for School Improvement and Policy Studies in the College of Education, noted the project's remarkable success. "When teachers learned different methods to add, subtract, multiply, and divide and used these methods in their classrooms, students showed increased scores on standardized tests that were much higher than gains made statewide," he said.

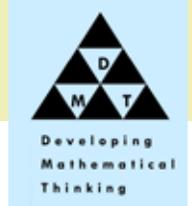
"The results are all the more impressive because the Caldwell School District has such a high number of students from low-income families and students who are learning English," Strother said. "We felt much rewarded for our efforts."

Jonathan Brendefur, professor in the Department of Curriculum Instruction and Foundational Studies and director of the Institute for Developing Math Thinking, started the first three-year DMT project in 2004.

Because of the project's success, the Idaho State Department of Education two years ago adopted it as a model for professional development courses for teachers and administrators in the state. Called Mathematical Thinking for Instruction, the courses are now required for re-certification by 2014.

Building upon the success of the previous project with Caldwell schools, DMT this summer began intensively focusing its efforts on 4th to 8th grades in the district, thanks to a nearly \$1 million Math and Science Partnership grant over the next three years.

"In Idaho, as well as nationally, there is often a decline in achievement as students move from their later-elementary grades to middle school," Strother said. "So one of our goals is to develop a clearer framework for teachers to prepare students for the more difficult math topics found in middle school."



Project focuses math thinking

The Developing Mathematical Thinking project runs for three years at a time. Each year has a different focus:

Year One: Number and algebra.

Year Two: Measurement and geometry.

Year Three: Data analysis: statistics and probability.

Tests on new cleat design may lead to fewer injuries

Tests by Boise State researchers on a new football cleat design may lead to fewer injuries on the field for high school and college football players.

Seth Kuhlman, a Boise State alumnus and lab manager for the university's Center for Orthopaedic and Biomechanics Research (COBR), is leading a recently contracted research project for a major golf spike producer. The company wants to move into the football market, and Kuhlman is using Boise State's "Turf Buster" to test its new cleat design against the industry standard.

The current project could help shoemakers design shoes that reduce the risk of injuries such as turf toe and high ankle sprains. Turf toe is a pain at the base of the big toe caused from either jamming the toe or pushing off when running or jumping. High ankle sprain occurs to the large ligament above the ankle.

"The ultimate goal is to create a shoe that performs well but does not increase injury risk," Kuhlman said. "Making shoes that enable athletes to perform at high levels while keeping injury risk low is the 'Holy Grail' in shoe design."

Kuhlman built the 1,200-pound, Turf Buster instrument for an NFL-funded study on stadium surfaces. That project was proposed and overseen by COBR co-directors Ron Pfeiffer, chair of the Department of Kinesiology, and Michelle Sabick, an associate professor in the Department of Mechanical and Biomedical Engineering. COBR is a partnership between the College of Education and the College of Engineering.



Seth Kuhlman changes a cleat to test on the surface of the turf in the Caven-Williams indoor practice facility.

College of Education

Dean: DIANE BOOTHE
208-426-1611
dianebooth@boisestate.edu

Associate Dean of Administration

ROSS VAUGHN
208-426-3399
rvaughn@boisestate.edu

**Associate Dean of Teacher Education
& Accreditation**

KEN COLL
208-426-1991
kcoll@boisestate.edu

Bilingual Education

Chair: ROBERTO BAHRUTH
208-426-2846
RobertoBahruth@boisestate.edu

Counselor Education

Chair: BOBBIE BIRDSALL
208-426-1821
bbirdsa@boisestate.edu

**Curriculum, Instruction &
Foundational Studies**

Chair: JENNIFER SNOW
208-426-2260
jennifersnow@boisestate.edu

Educational Technology

Chair: LISA DAWLEY
208-426-5430
lisadawley@boisestate.edu

Kinesiology

Chair: RON PFEIFFER
208-426-1791
rpfeiff@boisestate.edu

Literacy

Chair: STAN STEINER
208-426-3962
StanSteiner@boisestate.edu

**Special Education & Early Childhood
Studies**

Chair: KEITH ALLRED
208-426-1548
keithallred1@boisestate.edu

Upward Bound students beat college-bound odds

Caldwell High is an Idaho school where less than half of the graduates go on to higher education. Yet every senior in its Upward Bound program who graduated last spring enrolled in higher education.

The 13 Upward Bound graduates also received a total of \$34,800 in scholarships.

“The students in the Upward Bound program at Caldwell High School have made incredible strides,” said Sari Byerly, assistant director of the program. “It is truly amazing what these students have achieved.”

Upward Bound is one of seven federally funded TRiO programs at Boise State. TRiO helps motivate and support students who have limited incomes and are first-generation college students. First-generation students are those whose parents haven’t completed a bachelor’s degree. The programs are housed in the Center for Multicultural and Educational Opportunities

in the College of Education. TRiO began nationally in 1965 with three programs, giving TRiO its name.

Boise State’s Upward Bound programs provide services to students in six high schools in Ada, Canyon, and Elko counties.

For more information about the center’s seven programs and staff visit <http://education.boisestate.edu/multicultural>.

Caldwell senior sees college dream fulfilled

Daniella Puga, an Upward Bound graduate from Caldwell High School, also is just one of 22 Idaho high school graduates to receive a Governor’s Cup college scholarship in 2010. Puga entered Boise State this fall.

Success in Math continued

Nadelson is one of the co-principal investigators on the NSF grant, one of only 15 awarded nationally. Boise State garnered the award because the grant team developed an innovative proposal to enhance STEM teaching and learning from kindergarten through graduate education.

In addition to Nadelson from the College of Education, the project’s interdisciplinary team of co-principal investigators includes Sharon McGuire, vice provost for undergraduate studies, Cheryl Schrader, dean of the College of Engineering, and Karen Viskupic, education program manager for the Department of Geosciences. Sona Andrews, provost and vice president for academic affairs, is the principal investigator of the initiative.

Patricia Pyke, previously the director of education research in the College of Engineering, will direct STEM Central STATION, a new office for coordinating NSF-related and other STEM programs on campus and throughout Idaho.