Richard Osguthorpe named Dean of the College of Education

BOISE STATE UNIVERSITY has named Richard Osguthorpe dean of the College of Education after a national search. The appointment is effective May 26.

Osguthorpe, who has been with Boise State for a decade, has been chair of the Department of Curriculum, Instruction and Foundational Studies since 2012. Under his leadership, the department created two new academic programs, secured large external grant funding, supported faculty initiatives in teaching and research and more.

“I’m looking forward to working with Dr. Osguthorpe to move the College of Education forward,” said Martin Schimpf, provost and vice president for academic affairs. “He is deeply committed to strengthening ties between public schools and higher education, in order to both enhance teacher training programs at Boise State University and increase the number of high school students who ‘go on’ to pursue a college degree.”

In recommending Osguthorpe, the search committee cited his infectious energy, superb leadership skills and honest and

Education Doctorate Serves Graduates Outside Traditional K-12

COMMITTEE MEMBERS WHO DESIGNED BOISE STATE UNIVERSITY'S first doctoral program, the Doctor of Education in Curriculum and Instruction (Ed.D.), deliberately did not require an education background for admission to the program.

“The reason for that was the tremendous pent up demand from both education professionals and also from many other folks who wished to pursue doctoral study in education, but were not necessarily interested in K-12 schools,” said Jack Hourcade, who led the committees that produced the doctoral program.

“In that first class and since then we have had folks with a wide variety of backgrounds, many of whom were not in the schools,” said Hourcade who also is associate chair of the Department of Special Education and Early Childhood Studies.

During the 2013-14 academic year, the College of Education is observing the 20th anniversary of that first doctoral program. Below are the profiles of three graduates whose education doctorates served them in fields other than the traditional K-12 one.

Pamela Gehrke, associate professor of nursing, was already on the

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Passion, Commitment To Academic Excellence Behind College’s Success

IT HAS BEEN AN HONOR and pleasure to serve as dean of the College of Education at Boise State University.

Having served as dean since 2005, I’m leaving the position at the end of this academic year. I have very much enjoyed my work as dean and I look forward to pursuing opportunities and making positive contributions through community outreach and academic endeavors.

I am leaving the college in a strong position with an outstanding faculty, staff and quality academic programs. The dedication and passion of the Leadership Team, faculty members and staff have resulted in numerous accomplishments for the college over the last nine years. These include:

- Increasing grant funding from $3 million to $12 million a year.
- Building the Department of Educational Technology into one of the largest such programs in the country.
- Adding the doctor of educational technology degree as the second doctoral degree of the college.
- Contributing leadership to state and regional educational forums.
- Exceeding the rigorous standards of the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) to earn reaccreditation.

I’m most proud of the strong relationships that we have forged with public schools and educational agencies throughout the state. As president of the Idaho Association of Colleges of Teacher Education for the past two years, I have had the pleasure of sharing the many successes of our faculty members with my colleagues around the state.

Over the last nine years there have been hundreds of individuals responsible for advancing the College of Education’s reputation and commitment to academic excellence. Because of their leadership and teamwork, they were able to reach outstanding achievements that will have lasting impacts on Idaho children and educators for many years.

Diane Boothe, Professor and Dean College of Education

Osguthorpe continued from page 1

“Opportunities far outweigh the challenges, and I’m excited about the future of the College of Education,” Osguthorpe said. “The vision for the college will need to include a commitment to excellence in teacher education, doctoral study, faculty research and community outreach.”

Osguthorpe joined Boise State as an assistant professor in 2005, became an associate professor in 2010 and was promoted to professor in 2014. He served at the college level as the coordinator for teacher education quality improvement. Osguthorpe has worked extensively in the classroom and in clinical field experience with students who are preparing to be teachers, as well as those who are seeking doctoral and master’s degrees, to help them successfully realize their educational goals.

The book “The Moral Work of Teaching and Teacher Education, Preparing and Supporting Practitioners,” co-edited by Osguthorpe and focusing on his primary research interests, was named to “The U.K. Times Higher Education Suggested Reading List for 2013.”

He earned a doctorate in educational foundations and policy from the University of Michigan in 2005.

Boise State’s College of Education includes 72 faculty members and serves about 1,500 undergraduates, more than 700 master’s degree students and 75 doctoral students. The college offers 10 undergraduate degrees, two graduate certificates and 16 master’s and two doctoral degree programs. The college also collaborates with three other Boise State colleges to prepare 750 secondary teacher candidates enrolled in 21 additional undergraduate programs. And it houses some of the most far-reaching, on-the-ground programs in Idaho K-12 education through the Center for School Improvement and Policy Studies, including the Idaho Leads Project and IDoTeach, which helps train future educators to teach valuable STEM skills in science, technology, engineering and math.
nursing faculty at Boise State when she decided to seek an Ed.D. She noted that nursing has been slower than other professions to require everyone teaching in universities to have a terminal degree. The majority of the faculty when she started at Boise State in 1987 did not have doctoral degrees.

“Many nursing faculty are clinically focused and do not have advanced expertise in education,” said Gehrke, who had been a school nurse for several years prior to teaching at the university. “I was comfortable with K-12 professionals and systems. I felt the Ed.D. would be a good fit for me and my interests, even though at the time I was really an anomaly in my classes. I’m not sure the education faculty knew what to do with me.”

Gehrke’s dissertation research helped her identify a theory of political learning for nursing students. “I’ve applied this research in my teaching in the nursing program and developed policy learning in our master’s programs,” she said. “I’m currently developing our doctoral policy classes and am excited it will include a policy practicum for nurses. I hope to connect nursing students with policymakers to support policies that promote health for all.”

Gehrke is one of Boise State’s eight Idaho Professors of the Year recognized by the Carnegie Foundation. She was an early adopter of online learning at the university and taught the first online course offered in the College of Health Sciences. She presents widely on creative teaching, engaged learning, and distance education in nursing education. She also presents on political and policy advocacy in nursing and strategies to increase nursing’s involvement in civic and political affairs.

Gehrke noted that “Several other nursing faculty members are now in the Ed.D. program and I was happy to recommend it to them.”

Chris Francovich today is an associate professor of the doctoral program in leadership studies at Gonzaga University in Spokane, Wash. When he entered Boise State’s Ed.D. program in 1994, Francovich was an educational consultant to the residency program of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Boise.

Working at the VA with colleague Scott Smith, Francovich studied how doctors practice medicine and interacted with patients. The research team also measured the outcomes of the residency training program.

“When Scott suggested that my having an Ed.D would help our team’s research and credibility, I applied to enter the Boise State program,” Francovich said. “My dissertation prepared me to begin the apprenticeship into serious scholarship. My topic has also stayed with me as a kind of guiding theoretical light.”

Prior to working with the VA, Francovich had taught fifth grade, managed an independent school and interacted with patients. The research team also measured the outcomes of the residency training program.

“Having the doctorate gave me increased credibility in the business world,” she said.

Baker said Micron provided her the autonomy and support to develop a whole menu of opportunities for teachers and students. These included grade-level and standards-aligned science lesson plans, Chip Camp for budding 7th and 8th grade scientists, job shadows for junior and senior high school students, and workshops for both elementary and secondary teachers that linked the workplace to science and math content areas.

She also helped Micron employees contribute their expertise in science and math to classrooms throughout the Treasure Valley.

“Having the doctorate gave me increased credibility in the business world,” she said.

Baker earned her master’s degree in reading education at Boise State and had earned many additional credits, as well. She had been teaching English and language arts at West Junior High in Boise when the Ed.D. became available.

“I was very excited when Boise State developed the doctorate. It was a natural growth process for me—very stimulating.”
Where are they now?

1980s
CHRIS HALL, B.A., elementary education, ‘88, MA, counseling, ‘97, received the Elementary School Counselor of the Year Award from the Idaho Counselors Association annual conference. She is a counselor at Hidden Springs Elementary School.

DAN RUIZ, B.S., physical education, ’89, is an athletic trainer and science teacher at Mark Morris High School in Longview, Wash. He has been at the school since 2005, following seven seasons as an athletic trainer in the National Football League. His resume includes positions as a trainer at the University of West Virginia and Washington State University and head athletic trainer at University of California at Berkley. Ruiz also served as a trainer for the 1998 U.S. Olympic biathlon team.

BRENT YBARRONDO, M.A., education, curriculum and instruction, ’84, retired from Adams State University after more than 20 years. Ybarrondo was professor in the biology department. He retires with emeritus status in Monte Vista, Colo.

1990s
TARA COE, B.A., elementary education, ’93; MA, education, reading, ’96, is assistant principal at Riverside Elementary School and Whittier Elementary School in Boise. She has worked for the Boise School District for 19 years.

HELGA GABRIELLI, B.A., elementary education, ’93, was appointed assistant principal at Horizon Elementary School in Boise. Gabrielli has worked for the Boise School District since 1994.

CHARLENE GIMLIN-WELLS, B.S., physical education, ’96, MA, special education, ’03, has been named assistant principal of Capital High School in Boise. She began her teaching career in 1997 in Las Vegas, Nev., where she taught physical education, health, careers and driver’s education. She also coached high school basketball, softball and volleyball. She began teaching at Boise’s West Junior High in 1998 instructing students in physical education and health and coached numerous sports. In 2011, she became the AVID site coordinator at West.

LISA ROBERTS, B.A., elementary education, ’93, has been named area director at Timberline High School by the Boise School District. During her 21 years in the district, Roberts has worked as an elementary school teacher (Garfield), elementary school principal (Mountain View, Jackson, Morley Nelson and summer school) and most recently as administrator of student programs.

2000s
ALI WARD, M.A., curriculum and instruction, ’05, was selected as the Idaho Science Teacher Association’s regional Science Teacher of the Year. She is a science teacher at Boise High School.

DONNA SCHNEIDER, B.A., special education, ’09, was named teacher of the year at East Canyon Elementary School in the Vallivue School District, where she works as a special education teacher.

2010s
JOSHUA PFIESTER, Ed.D., curriculum and instruction, ’12, won the national Edward Chance dissertation award for his work “Place-Free and Place-Based

Student Takes Idea Out of Classroom and Into Business

KINESIOLOGY JUNIOR MARGI STROH is a member of a select group of Boise State students who are taking their ideas out of the classroom to start their own business.

Stroh is a participant in Boise State’s Venture College, which offers students an opportunity to compete for limited start-up funding and invaluable experience. The non-credit program is open to full-time students from any major. Students who complete the program receive a Venture College Badge, a new way to measure achievement being implemented by a number of universities across the country.

In April, Stroh launched an eight-week pilot program for Ada County Drug Court that uses exercise and wellness principles to help people recover from substance abuse. Participants in the pilot program learn how to exercise, eat healthy, find balance in their lives, meditate and perform service work in the community.

“I plan to blend many of techniques I learned in kinesiology especially the positive coaching aspects I learned,” she said.

If the pilot goes well, Stroh hopes to expand the program at Ada County Drug Court by using kinesiology students in service learning classes.
Ed Leadership Student First Vet Profiled on White House Blog

BOISE STATE’S JORGE PULLEIRO, a student in the educational leadership master’s program, became the White House blog’s first veteran profiled in the Troops to Teachers program.

The blog noted that as a middle school teacher Pulleiro has received several prestigious awards for outstanding teaching. He is currently a Spanish teacher at Wood River Middle School in Hailey, Idaho.

Pulleiro served in the U.S. Army for six years as a rear detachment commander for the Army in Germany.

Pulleiro told the White House blog that “In the Army, I had to be a flexible and imaginative leader with positive and often urgent, effective reaction to the unexpected. These gained skills transferred to the education arena, as I constantly have to demonstrate flexibility and use imagination in the classroom.”

Kelly Cross, clinical assistant professor in the Department of Curriculum, Instruction and Foundational Studies, said, “Jorge is a charismatic and dedicated educator who cares greatly for his students as well as his colleagues. We all benefit from his experience, his humor and his gratifying sense of purpose.”

2014 Women of the Year

THE IDAHO BUSINESS REVIEW 2014 WOMEN OF THE YEAR AWARDS celebrate Idaho’s most successful women from public, private and charitable business sectors. The award recognizes 50 women from across Idaho for their commitment to excellence, exemplary leadership and contributions to the community. The awards honored the following College of Education graduates:

TRUDY ANDERSON, MA, business education, secondary education,’79
LISA KINNAMAN, Ed.D., curriculum and instruction, ’09; co-director of the Idaho Leads Project
MAUREEN O’TOOLE, BA, elementary education, bilingual-English as a second language, ’96
THE SWITCH FROM CONSUMING INFORMATION in a classroom to contributing knowledge in a discipline is what marks the change from a student identity to a professional one.

That’s why education associate professor Louis Nadelson and his team of researchers are looking at ways curriculum, instruction and other learning opportunities at Boise State can be designed to foster such professional identity. They are focusing particularly on students in science, technology, engineering and math (or STEM) fields.

“We have a limited knowledge of how STEM students develop their professional identities and what faculty can do to help them progress toward it,” Nadelson said.

His research outlines four stages in the progress to a professional identity:

• External formula stage: Students tend to be observers and followers.
• Crossroads stage: Students seek answers from others, but also begin to think independently.
• Author-of-self stage: Students contribute and offer new ideas and perspectives, but are still tenuous in personal positions.
• Self-authored stage: Students become secure in their beliefs and contribute equally in their relationships with others.

“As STEM students are immersed in learning experiences that require them to explore and struggle with the fundamental ideas of their discipline and argue for positions in situations of ambiguity,” Nadelson says, “they engage in processes that promote critical and scientific reasoning.”

He says the survey of STEM majors showed that undergraduate research, service learning and internships may be fundamental to undergraduate STEM students’ development of professional identities.

“These experiences require them to evaluate the merit of evidence, decipher and develop perspectives based on data and argue for a position based on their understanding of evidence,” he says. “They become less reliant on the opinions and positions of textbooks and other sources of authority and become more self-reliant on their own intellectual positions and thoughts.”

Besides Nadelson, the team looking at how STEM students develop their professional identities includes: Arvin Farid, civil engineering associate professor; Kimberly McAdams, psychology assistant professor; Kirsten Davis, construction management associate professor; Rajesh Nagarajan, chemistry assistant professor; Sasha Wang, mathematics assistant professor; Sharon McGuire, vice provost for undergraduate studies; Uwe Kaiser, mathematics associate professor; and Yu-Chang Hsu, educational technology assistant professor.

Research Seeks to Foster Switch from Student to Professional

The London kickoff of the New Pedagogies project included middle schools students making a visual representation of the initiative’s goals.

Kristin Sapnas at service learning project.

Idaho Leads Joins Global Drive for Education Excellence

THE IDAHO LEADS PROJECT IS A PARTNER IN A groundbreaking global education initiative to provide students the skills to be life-long learners who also are creative and collaborative problem solvers. The initiative, involving schools from 10 countries, seeks to help students successfully participate and innovate in an increasingly interconnected world.

Called “New Pedagogies for Deep Learning: A Global Partnership,” the initiative partners 63 schools in Idaho and 37 schools in Washington state representing the United States. A total of 1,000 schools from around the
Summer Academy Expands Service to Two Locations

THE BOISE STATE LITERACY Center’s Summer Academy will operate in two locations this year to better meet growing demands from families in both Boise and Meridian.

Summer Academy classes will be held at St. Mary’s Elementary School, 2612 W State St., Boise, and the Boise First Community Center, 3852 N. Eagle Rd., Boise. Classes will take place from 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. weekdays, June 16 to July 11.


“The Literacy Center is an important bridge between Boise State and the local community,” said Petros Panaou, Literacy Center director. “The Summer Literacy Academy is an important part of our mission to enhance and promote literacy practices.”

The academy focuses on reading, writing, listening and speaking while also providing special instruction in drama, art, movement and storytelling. Small class size, low student-to-teacher ratio and engaging and motivating thematic instruction make the academy a popular choice for parents of children ages 5-13. Cost to attend the academy is $450, with financial aid available. The Summer Academy is run by a team of experienced teachers, graduate and undergraduate student teachers, teacher aids and special educators. They are led by Department of Literacy assistant professor Mary Ann Cahill and professor and chair Stan Steiner, as well as Panaou.

For more information or to register, contact Cahill at 208-426-2702, MaryCahill@boisestate.edu or visit education.boisestate.edu/literacy/literacy-center/summer-literacy-academy/.

Panaou Named Director of Literacy Center

PETROS PANAOU has been named director of the Boise State University Literacy Center. He was formerly an assistant professor in children’s literature at the University of Nicosia in Cyprus.

“Petros has the vision and abilities that can turn the goals for the Literacy Center into reality,” said Diane Boothe, dean of the College of Education, which houses the center under the Department of Literacy. “The center can become a destination place that will inspire children, adults and families to visit again and again.”

Panaou, who earned his doctoral degree from Illinois State University, has worked as a language arts counselor for 50 public primary schools and since 2007 has taught children’s literature and literacy courses at the University of Nicosia. He also has taught at Central Michigan University and has coordinated several international literacy projects. He often publishes and presents on literacy issues.

Over the next year, leaders at participating schools will focus on the skills needed to drive their schools to excellence. All partnering schools will collaborate to identify the most promising practices and tools that enable 21st century learning.

The Global Partnership is funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Intel, Microsoft, Promethean and others. The initiative is spearheaded by Michael Fullan, a Canadian researcher and worldwide authority on educational reform.

For more information on the Global Partnership, visit www.newpedagogies.org.
Scholarships Help Students Realize Their Potential

SUPPORTERS OF THE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION have two ways to make their donations go further in ensuring that a student’s great potential is not left unrealized because of an inability to bear the cost of a university education.

College of Education Dean Diane Boothe has announced matching gift challenges for two key scholarship funds.

One is a $20,000 matching gift challenge for the Pat and Eloise Bieter Doctoral Fellowship. The college will match all gifts and pledges to the Bieter Fellowship made during the 2013-14 academic year.

The matching challenge is being made in recognition of the 20th anniversary of the doctor of education program. Reaching the matching gift goal would result in $40,000 being invested into the Bieter Fellowship, nearly doubling the financial awards that can be dispersed to education doctoral students at Boise State.

The second is a $25,000 matching gift challenge for the Student Teacher Endowed Scholarship. It will be awarded to outstanding students who are in their professional, or student teaching, year and are about to start their teaching careers.

“Financial need is at its highest during this time for our students because of the amount of time they are spending in the classroom,” Boothe said.

Donations for these two scholarship funds may be directed to the Boise State University Foundation website at giving.boisestate.edu. If you have any questions about making a gift to the College of Education or would like more information on how you can make a difference in the lives of our students through the creation of your own scholarship, please contact the college’s development director Kris Kamann at (208) 426-5196 or kriskamann@boisestate.edu.