



**Idaho State
University**

College of Arts and Letters

March 2024

News

Beloved Idaho State Choir Director, Dr. Scott Anderson, Announces Retirement

“Dr. Anderson has made an impact on this community and on our students that is probably impossible to measure.”



Dr. Anderson Retirement

In the Company of Those Who Have Earned Global Acclaim

Dr. Raphael Chijioko Njoku, professor in the Department of History at Idaho State University (ISU) has the distinguished honor of being appointed to The Nigerian Academy of Letters (NAL). Notable Foundation Fellows include Chinua Achebe and Wole Soyinka.

“I still sometimes wonder if I am in a dream.”



2024 Research and Creative Activity Symposium

[The 2024 ISU Research and Creative Works Symposium](#) successfully took place on Wednesday, March 13, 2024. This annual event is an opportunity for students of all disciplines to showcase and present their scholarly and creative works. Congratulations to our CAL participants and winners in the Fine Arts and Humanities and Behavioral and Social Sciences.



March KISU Episode: A Great Academic Ecosystem

[Listen to the March episode](#)

In our latest ISU Impact episode, Dean Kandi Turley Ames talks with scholarship recipients Dani Mecham and Noah Leary about the impact of scholarships on their lives and the benefit of

interdisciplinary study at ISU.



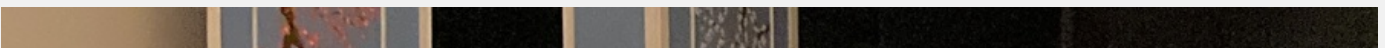
A Week of Accolades, Celebration, and Opportunities for ISU Theatre Students

“The KCACTF festival in Spokane was a whirlwind of passion, talent, and growth. Watching ISU students compete, perform, and embrace the transformative power of theatre was a profound journey”



Theatre Awards

High School One-Act Festival April 19-20





Hosted by the ISU Department of Theatre and Dance, the festival has been running for close to 20 years now and is set to welcome approximately 15 high school drama departments from across Idaho and Utah. Registration for participating schools is currently open and accessible via the [event's website](#).

Congratulations to our 2024 [Benny Awards Winners!](#)

Undergraduate Student Leader

Isabelle Kirkman | Social Work Program

Roar Bengal Roar Spirit Award

Noah Rutherford | Political Science Program

Student Organization Advisor of the Year

Amanda Bennett | Department of Communication, Media, and Persuasion

Faculty Member of the Year

Dr. Donna Lybecker | Department of Political Science

Faculty Achievements

Inaugural recipients of the 2024 ISU Excellence in General Education Teaching Award

Congratulations to our CAL faculty who were recognized as general education faculty who engage students with innovative teaching practices, help non-majors understand and broadly apply disciplinary methods of inquiry, and implement strategies to increase access and affordability to students.

Matt Wilson | Objective #1: Written Communication

Melissa Norton | Objective #4: Humanistic and Artistic Ways of Knowing

Erika Fulton | Objective #6: Social and Behavioral Ways of Knowing

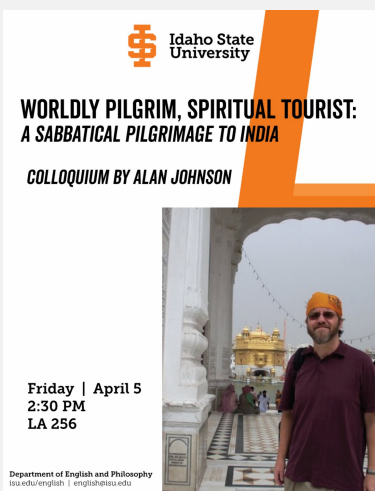
Mike Roche | Objective #7: Critical Thinking

Teaching Awards



National Geographic Article

Richard Hansen, Affiliated Researcher with the Department of Anthropology is featured in the March issue of National Geographic, ["Everything we thought we knew about the Maya is being upended" by Tom Clynes.](#)



"Worldly Pilgrim, Spiritual Tourist: A Sabbatical Pilgrimage to India" by Alan Johnson

April 5 | 2:30 p.m.
Liberal Arts Building 256
All are welcome

Johnson will describe two parallel journeys: his study of how pilgrimage, as an act that is at once individual and communal, allows writers to figure the contradictions of modern life; and his actual visits to pilgrimage destinations around South Asia.

Post-Sabbatical Colloquium by Thomas Klein "Medievalism and Me: From D&D to the Global Middle Ages"

MEDIEVALISM AND ME: FROM D&D TO THE GLOBAL MIDDLE AGES

COLLOQUIUM BY THOMAS KLEIN

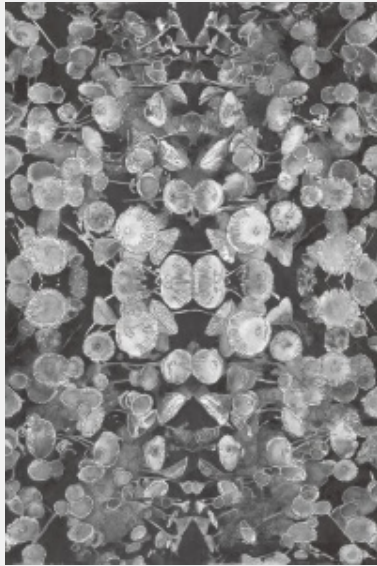


Friday | April 12
2:30 - 3:45 PM
LA 324

Department of English and Philosophy
2020.04.12.12.12.12

April 12 | 2:30 p.m.
Liberal Arts Building 324
All are welcome

The colloquium will explore the avenues by which students and scholars become attracted to the field of medieval studies. It will then comment on the larger practices of historical periodization, and outline the changing scope of the Middle Ages, with particular focus on the "global turn" in teaching the Middle Ages.



Laura Ahola-Young Sabbatical Presentation A Pop-up Exhibition and Gallery Talk

Artist Talk
April 16 | 5 - 6:30 p.m.

Gallery available for viewing
April 15 - 16 | 12 - 6 p.m.
Compartment Gallery, Fourth Floor Fine Arts Building

Pictured left: *Acetabularia* | Graphite | by Laura Ahola-Young

Student Achievements



Megan Bigham | Clinical Psychology

"This fellowship is incredibly meaningful to me on my journey to becoming a specialist in autism spectrum disorder. The Marcus Autism Center is a nationally recognized institute for providing evidence-based assessment and intervention for autistic individuals and their families as well as being on the cutting edge of research regarding early identification of autism spectrum disorder."

Diane Keister | Clinical Psychology

"My graduate training at ISU has provided me with a wonderful foundation for my career in clinical psychology and diagnosing autism. This postdoctoral fellowship will allow me the opportunity to refine my clinical skills and fulfill the interests that ISU instilled in me: working with autistic people of all ages and serving people



who are underserved.”



[Hannah Lesnick | Experimental Psychology](#)

“These awards mean a lot to me and I am honored to be one of the recipients. It feels amazing to have my research and hard work recognized, and I am excited to contribute to the field.”



[Subash Pandey | M.A. in Sociology](#)

“This experience profoundly influenced my career choices, steering me towards working with underserved communities in Nepal and other countries in the Global South.”



[Emma Tussey, M.S. | Clinical Psychology](#)

ISU Clinical Psychology Doctoral Candidate, Emma Tussey, received a Psi Chi Graduate Research Award of \$1,500 to work on her dissertation project, "Investigating Mechanisms in the Sleep-Alcohol Relationship: An Ecological Momentary Assessment Approach."

Events

[ISU Calendar](#)

[Performing Arts Calendar](#)

ANNUAL CONTINUING EDUCATION CLINICAL WORKSHOP



Presented by Jen Beighley, Ph.D. *Boyden Family Autism at Providence Medical Center*

Friday | April 19

10:30 AM- 5 PM | Lunch Break 12-1 PM

ISU Education | Room 243

"Gender-Affirming Mental Health Care"

Free to Graduate students and faculty from ISU's Clinical Psychology, Ph.D. program, Counseling program, MSW program, and Counseling and Mental Health Clinic, as well as local clinical affiliates. Non-affiliated community psychologists, counselors, and social workers are welcome to attend for a fee of \$100.

Hosted by Department of Psychology
Please RSVP to Ashley Chatterton at wardashl@isu.edu by April 12, 2024

Contact us. We'd love to hear from you!

208-282-3204 | cal@isu.edu



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