



Idaho State  
University

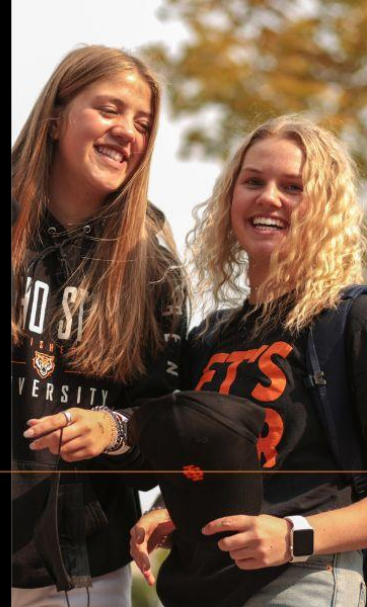
College of  
Arts and Letters



# NEWSLETTER

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND LETTERS

JULY 2024



## Supporting Students with Benny's Pantry

"Little things that fill gaps help people's dreams come true."



Read how our community supports ISU students

# Remembering Dr. Pfister



## IN LOVING MEMORY

Thomas J. Pfister  
Emeritus English Professor

*Tom's remarkable talent, generosity, and dedication touched many lives. His legacy in the arts and education will be fondly remembered by all.*

It is with deep sorrow that we announce the passing of Thomas J. Pfister, Senior Lecturer in English (1996 - 2023). Known for his remarkable talent, generosity, and dedication to his students, Tom's legacy includes his original collagraph prints adorning the walls of the English Department and his unforgettable impersonations of literary characters. His kindness and wide-ranging intelligence have left a lasting impact on our community. He will be greatly missed and fondly remembered by all who had the privilege of knowing him.

[Read about Tom Pfister's lasting legacy and kindness](#)



## Intern of the Month

Congratulations to Psychology major, Marlon Thomas, on being recognized as the July Career Path Intern of the Month! His commitment to developing a peer mentoring program for veterans and supporting initiatives like the annual Homeless Stand Down event at ISU's Veterans Student Services Center is truly inspiring!

[CPI of the month](#)

Hey students, what are you most looking forward to this semester?

[Meeting new people and making friends](#)



Participating in campus events and activities

Exploring new academic subjects and classes

Joining clubs and organizations

Improving my academic performance

## OUTSTANDING ESSAY



## Congratulations

## Outstanding Essay Award Winner

Congratulations to Chloe Lemmon! Chloe received an award for her outstanding essay titled "Ethics in Invasive Species Management," submitted in Dr. Brent Wolter's English 1102 class. Chloe is a Biology major with a concentration in Ecology and Conservation. Well done, Chloe!



## The Unsung Heroes of Dual Enrollment

Dual enrollment programs are a powerful bridge between high school and college,

offering students a head start on their higher education journey. At the heart of these programs are dedicated liaisons who ensure the seamless integration of high school courses with college standards. One such exceptional liaison is Marie Stango.

Read about the teachers behind dual enrollment

## Dean Kandi Turley Ames appointed as Interim Vice President for Advancement

We are thrilled to announce Dr. Kandi Turley-Ames' appointment as Interim Vice President for Advancement at Idaho State University!

With 27 years of distinguished service, Dr. Turley-Ames is ready to lead ISU through this transition. She remains committed to the College of Arts and Letters and is confident in her supportive leadership team.

Leadership Changes



## Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs

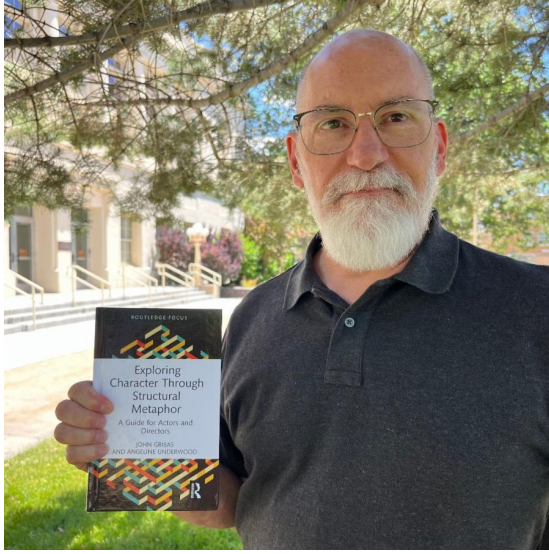
The Office of the Provost has named Professor Laura Ahola-Young, of the Department of Art, to the position of Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs. Ahola-Young has served the institution as Faculty Ombuds, Faculty Senate co-Chair, Faculty Senator, and as Interim Chair of the Department of Art. She is known across campus for her work in building a supportive environment for the advancement of faculty and students.

Ahola-Young

## John Gribas Book Publication

Congratulations to John Gribas on the publication of his book, *Exploring Character Through Structural Metaphor*, coauthored with Angeline Underwood. In addition to offering a clear and followable guide for character analysis, the authors draw on personal experience to demonstrate how applying this





method for character analysis could impact both performance and production.

Book Publication



## Faculty Research Development Initiative in Collaboration with Office for Research

“There’s a common misconception that the liberal arts are somehow divorced from the rest of the world,” Levay says, “but our faculty work on projects that provide immediate, real-world impact. The Office for Research recognizes that these are important to the mission of the university as a whole. There are so many projects that can happen, so much more we can contribute to the university and the world.”

Read more about faculty research support

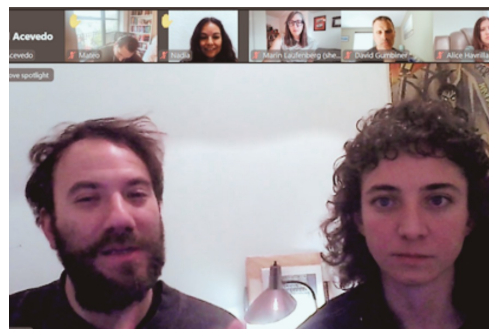
# Interviewing Award Winning Film Directors

ISU students recently engaged with prominent figures in the arts through two insightful interviews. Assistant Professor Jose Eduardo Villalobos Graillet and Spanish M.A. student Hillary Buckner spoke with renowned writer and director Aaron Mark about his Amazon Prime series *The Horror of Dolores Roach*, examining how it uses metaphors of consumption to address themes of oppression and gentrification in the Latinx community. [Read more here...](#)

In another exciting session, Professor Marin Laufenberg's Spanish M.A. students interacted with Argentine film directors Sofía Jallinsky and Juan Pablo Basovich Marinaro, who discussed their film *Estertor*. This film employs dark humor to explore Argentina's historical traumas, enriching students' understanding of how humor can reflect and cope with societal challenges. [Read more here...](#)



Hillary Buckner, Eduardo Villalobos, and Aaron Mark meet over zoom.



Film directors Sofía Jallinsky and Juan Pablo Basovich Marinaro meet with students via Zoom



## Award Winning Album

Congratulations to ISU Professors Dr. Patrick Young and Mark Neiwirth for their award-winning album "Counting Rests," which has earned two silver medals from the Global Music Awards in instrumental performance and creativity/originality.

[Read the full story...](#)

Listen on Spotify

Listen on YouTube

## Homecoming Awards

Dr. Nicki Chopski  
*ISU Distinguished Alumna*

Dr. Linda & Dr. Ronald Hatzenbuehler  
*President's Medallion*

Mr. Wade & Mrs. Karen Tolman  
*William J. Bartz Award*

Dr. Christopher DeCou  
Young Alumnus Award

Dr. Cindy Hill  
*ISU Achievement Award*

Dr. James "Byrd" Yizar, Jr.  
*ISU Distinguished Service Award*

Mrs. Sharon & Mr. Park Price, III  
*Parade Marshals*

Homecoming Awards

## Farewell to Major Goering and Seargent Cruz

Best of wishes for the next stage of your journey!







## Spanish for Heritage Speakers

The Department of Anthropology and Languages at Idaho State University (ISU) is excited to introduce SPAN 2221: Spanish for Heritage Speakers, taught by Assistant Professor Jose Eduardo Villalobos Graillet. This new undergraduate course aims to support bilingual students with a background in Spanish and English or a deep connection to Hispanic cultures.

Additionally, ISU has implemented a vertical credit system for foreign language courses, allowing Spanish heritage speakers to earn up to eight credits (one full year of language credits) without completing all the required courses. Students who enroll in the Spanish for Heritage Speakers course (SPAN 2221) and achieve a grade of B minus or higher can receive credit for Spanish 1101 and 1102 for a fee of \$20. This system leverages students' existing language skills, enabling them to advance more quickly toward graduation and their degree.

Spanish for Heritage Speakers





## Join ISU's International Affairs Council Student Club to Lead and Connect Globally

The International Affairs Council (IAC) is seeking driven students from all majors to join their club. Ideal for those interested in organizing a major event and connecting with global professionals and leaders, the IAC offers an opportunity to contribute to a significant community event and build valuable career connections and skills.

[Learn more about joining the IAC!](#)

# Events



Idaho State University

# BENGAL WELCOME WEEK PARTY & CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT



  
**LOOKOUT**  
CREDIT UNION  
Sponsored by the Galo Medina Family

**Get ready for the 2024 Bengal Welcome Week Party and Cornhole Tournament!**

Join us on the Quad on Friday, August 23  
Lawn games, drinks, ice cream, pizza!  
Tournament begins at noon.

Exclusive cornhole shirts will be given to the first 50 teams to check-in for the tournament, so get ahead by pre-registering! \$500 to the first place team!

[Register for Cornhole Here!](#)



**Join our ISU music ensembles!**

Join our ISU music ensembles—bands, choirs, and orchestras are open to all ISU students, regardless of major or minor. Continue to follow your passion for music with scholarships available for non-majors. [Contact the department for more information.](#)

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**Resource for Mental Health Professionals:**

The Department of Psychology at Idaho State University, under the encouragement of Sarah Emert, Ph.D., is excited to share [CBTNightmaresweb.org](https://www.cbt nightmaresweb.org), a newly launched, free web-based training program for Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Nightmares (CBT-N). This comprehensive resource offers evidence-based treatments to improve sleep and nightmares,

with a wealth of tools including informational videos, therapy demonstrations, and interactive components. Available at no cost, this platform provides an invaluable opportunity for clinicians and mental health professionals to enhance their understanding and application of CBT-N techniques. We encourage mental health professionals who have clients who experience nightmares to take advantage of this innovative and accessible resource to support better mental health. Consultation services are also available through the training program!

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