LETTER FROM LYN

I hope the first month of summer has provided you with the opportunity to relax and recharge as we begin our final plans and preparations for August and the return of our students. I have certainly enjoyed the change of pace but am ready for our campus to begin to ROAR!

At our April town hall meeting, I highlighted President Satterlee’s charters for the University and our division. Here is a preview of a few we are working on.

Kelly Moor is working with a team that is re-envisioning the ACAD 1104 course. They are building on the success of the course with the goal to create a comprehensive first year experience course that will be applicable to all new and transfer students. The foundational components of the course are focused on a students’ development of purpose, social integration to the campus and community, and a growth mindset to foster resiliency. Based on literature and research, we are confident that with an intentional mindset of working with students in this context will allow for more opportunity to translate learning to action. This course is set to be implemented in the fall of 2020.

Brooke Barber has been working on exciting changes for the 2020 New Student Orientation (NSO) schedule. Beginning Fall 2020 new students will be able to choose their NSO session in May, June, or July of 2020. The vision of NSO remains the same, the academic and social transition of our newest Bengals! NSO is excited to be able to expand options for academic advising and registration activities during these summer sessions. Campus traditions, such as the beloved March Through the Arch, will remain part of a welcome weekend immediately prior to fall classes.

The American College Testing Program (ACT) found that of the nearly 35 percent of freshmen who drop out of college nationally, more than half leave within the first six weeks of school. This is true for our students as well. The Super 6 initiative is an intentional effort to create connections with students during those critical weeks. Whether it is in the classroom, the residence halls, a student organization, or eating lunch in the student union, it is critical that we reach out to and connect with our students as well as ensuring they are connecting with fellow students, faculty, and the university!

Take some time some to brainstorm something you or your department can do to connect with students during the first 6 weeks of the semester. We will have time during our August Town Hall Meeting to discuss and refine our plans. Together, we will make a difference in the lives of our students and help set them on a trajectory of success!
TRIO MCNAIR SCHOLARS TO PURSUE GRADUATE SCHOOL

Idaho State University TRIO McNair Scholars Program is only one of 150 TRIO programs funded by the U.S. Department of Education supporting the academic achievement of students from groups traditionally underrepresented in higher education. The purpose of the TRIO McNair Scholars Program is to assist with the academic and professional development of undergraduate students, in their last two years of undergraduate work, whose goals are to research at the college level and obtain a PhD.

The TRIO McNair Program at ISU just celebrated the graduation of the first cohort of eleven students. As part of their participation in the program, students completed a TRIO McNair specific course each semester and worked with a faculty research mentor to complete a summer research project and produce a research paper. The research that TRIO McNair Scholars complete provides them with the opportunity to present at both the National McNair conference and discipline specific conferences. At the conference, students have the chance to present their research in both oral and poster formats, participate in a graduate school fair and hear from guest speakers who are leaders in their fields of study.

Seven students from the cohort are headed to graduate school in the fall at various institutions throughout the US including: Oregon State, San Diego State University, Georgia Institute of Technology, University of North Texas, Idaho State University, Pacific College, and University of Kentucky.

Tony Lemons, a physics major, worked with Dr. John Kalivas on a research project titled “One-Class Classification Using Sum of Ranking Differences Via Outlier Measures.” Tony presented his preliminary work at the SciX conference in Atlanta, Georgia in October 2018. He has accepted an offer from the Graduate School of Physics at Georgia Institute of Technology where he will pursue his PhD. Georgia Tech awarded Tony a Graduate Teaching Assistantship and tuition waiver.

EmiLee Simons, an English major minoring in Political Science, worked with Dr. Shane Gleason on a research project titled “Petticoats and Top Hats: Critical Mass and Gender Norms at Oral Arguments at the US Supreme Court.” She was able to present her work in January at the Southern Political Science Association conference in Austin, Texas. EmiLee has accepted an offer from the Department of Political Science at the University of Kentucky where she will pursue her PhD. The graduate committee awarded EmiLee a Teaching Assistantship, tuition waiver, "Emerging Scholar Research Stipend," the "S. Sidney and Margaret L. Ulmer Endowed Scholarship," and the "Wimberly C. Royster Graduate Excellence Award."
HAPPENING IN STUDENT AFFAIRS

Admissions Visitor Center

STAFF NEWS

Kitanna Taylor has moved roles and is now the CRM Data Analyst in the Admissions Visitor Center. Kirby Sholette is now an international Recruiter/Study Abroad Coordinator for the International Programs Office.

Campus Recreation

STAFF NEWS

Karen Homstad returned from maternity leave on July 8. Otis, the newest addition to the Homstad family was born on April 7, 2019 weighing 7 lbs 15 oz and measuring 21 inches long.

Career Center

STAFF NEWS

Please welcome Ambri Saighman back from maternity leave this month, she was greatly missed! Ambri would like you to meet Brinley Pearl Saighman. She was 7 lbs 13 oz and 21½ inches long. She is a happy, healthy blessing.
**HAPPENING IN STUDENT AFFAIRS**

## Counseling & Testing Service

**EVENTS**

**Respond Training**

*July 18 8AM-4PM:* Contact Ryan Karlson at karlrya2@isu.edu to register or contact Susan MaComb at mcasusa@isu.edu or 208-282-2130 for more information.

## Equity & Inclusion

**STAFF NEWS**

Shirley Taysom received the Be a Bengal Award for Stability.

**EVENTS**

**Bengal Warrior Bootcamp Native American Student Services**

*July 16-17:* The 6th annual BENGAL WARRIOR BOOTCAMP is a special event created for Native American middle school and high school students. It is a two-day event full of activities and in-depth presentations on career and college awareness.

**Conference on Human Trafficking**

*July 17:* Featuring a documentary film by ISU student Alma Jam. Contact the office of Equity and Inclusion for more information.

## KISU FM Radio

**STAFF NEWS**

With Jerry Miller’s retirement on June 28, we welcome Jamon Anderson as the interim General Manager for the radio station.