College of Arts & Letters Endowment Honoring ISU Emeritus Professor Ron Hatzenbuehler

In 2017, the Idaho State University College of Arts & Letters established a scholarship endowment to honor emeritus professor of history Ron Hatzenbuehler. The Dr. Ronald Hatzenbuehler Scholarship Endowment Fund is a tribute to his impact on so many.

“We are honored that so many people stepped in and helped the endowment reach its goal,” said Dean Kandi Turley-Ames. “It shows how great a teacher and mentor Ron was and continues to be.”

Dr. Hatzenbuehler taught at ISU from 1972 to 2013. During that time, he served on the advisory boards of the Idaho State University Press, ISU’s magazine Rendezvous, and as book review editor for the Idaho State Historical Society’s magazine Idaho Yesterdays. He also served as chair of the History Department, as well as an associate dean in the College of Arts & Letters.


Dr. Hatzenbuehler received numerous awards for teaching, including ISU’s Distinguished Teacher Award in 1994 and Master Teacher Awards in 1981 and 1994. He was also awarded the Idaho Humanities Council’s Outstanding Achievement in the Humanities Award in 2008.

Dr. Hatzenbuehler married his wife Linda in 1970, when they were graduate students at Kent State University. Dr. Linda Hatzenbuehler (emeritus professor of psychology) also enjoyed a successful and distinguished career at ISU for 44 years in the Department of Psychology and as Dean of the Kasiska College of Health Professions and Academic Vice-President for the Division of Health Sciences. They have three children: John, Lindsay, and Patrick. Ron and Linda celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in 2020, and continue to reside in Pocatello.

Matt Strannigan—Idaho State University Class of 1976, retired teacher/administrator in Wyoming, current director of the “We the People” program in the State of Wyoming, and former student of Dr. Hatzenbuehler—said, “To say that Ron inspired me or had an impact on my life would be a significant understatement.”

Since 2017, the Dr. Ronald Hatzenbuehler Scholarship Endowment has helped ISU’s Early College Students who are pursuing a degree in history or the social sciences. Dr. Zackery Heern, Chair of History and Associate Professor adds, “This scholarship has already helped several history majors. It also adds to Ron’s legacy in the History Department, which continues to benefit from his many years as a professor at ISU.”

Holly Kartchner, Director of Outreach and Retention at ISU, and a former student who was impacted by Dr. Hatzenbuehler, said, “Ron Hatzenbuehler is an extraordinary educator. As a
teacher, I wanted to be Ron Hatzenbuehler. He has been and continues to be my mentor and friend. His students will be forever grateful for his knowledge, patience, and dedication to education.”