

Idaho State University Professor, Dr. Victor Joe, is honored with the first ever endowment scholarship for the College of Arts and Letters

On May 12, 2015 Professor Emeritus of Psychology at Idaho State University (ISU), Dr. Victor Joe, was honored with the very first College of Arts and Letters Legacy Endowment established in his name in honor of his many contributions to ISU. Not only was this the first faculty legacy endowment for the College of Arts and Letters, it was also the first ever Department of Psychology endowment scholarship.

The Victor C. Joe Scholarship Endowment Fund in Experimental Psychology honors Dr. Joe's thirty-four years of full time teaching and twelve years of part time teaching at ISU and the Department of Psychology. Of his thirty-four years of full time teaching, he served as the chairman of the Department for 25 years.

During his 25 years as chairman, he experienced numerous fortuitous moments of being in the "right place at the right time." For instance, when then ISU President Richard Bowen accepted and embraced ISU's designated role and mission in the mid 1980's as the lead institution for the development of health related profession programs, this led Dr. Mark Roberts to develop a Ph.D. doctoral program in clinical psychology. This feat would not have been accomplished without the substantial support, shared visions, and collegiality of the Psychology faculty (Drs. Linda Hatzenbuehler, Le Matthews, Linda Enloe), Deans Butch Hjelm, Ed House, and Pres. Bowen. Occasions such as this one generated several moments of unforgettable esprit de corps among all who were engaged in this project

Dr. Joe is passionate about creating opportunities for first generation students in Psychology, especially women and minorities. Throughout his career, he encouraged many first generation psychology students to give strong consideration to attaining advanced degrees. He is extremely grateful for the establishment of the endowment fund by the College of Arts and Letters to assist students in this endeavor.

Former student, Bette Kent-Cannon, who benefited from Dr. Joe's personal interest in her life, recalls how he asked a question that changed her life: "He called me in one day. His question to me, I remember very well, "Are you aware that with this four year degree a minimum wage job is what you're going to have?" That really was a wake up call to me. He encouraged and helped me to apply to masters programs. I did go on to get a masters in Clinical Psychology. Without his encouragement and interest I don't know what I would have ended up doing."

Dr. Joe has two sons, Russell and Jeffrey, and four beloved grandchildren. He continues to provide educational opportunities through New Knowledge Adventures in Pocatello, Idaho despite having retired to Lake Oswego, Oregon state.

The Victor C. Joe Scholarship Endowment Fund in Experimental Psychology will benefit those seeking either a Master's or Doctoral degree in the Experimental Psychology Program in the College of Arts and Letters at Idaho State University, with preference given to first-generation college students with demonstrated financial need, and single parents.