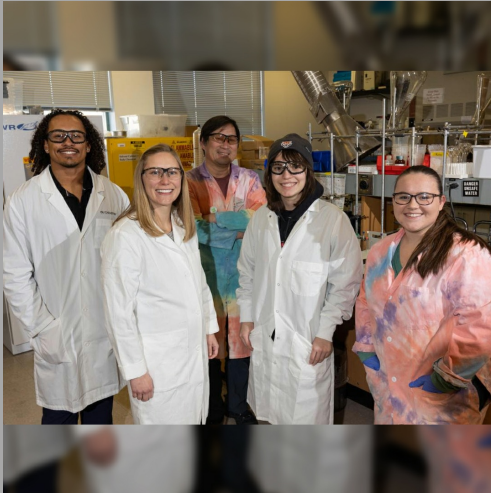


## What's Happening in CoSE

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### ISU Chemists Tackle the Plastic Pollution Problem

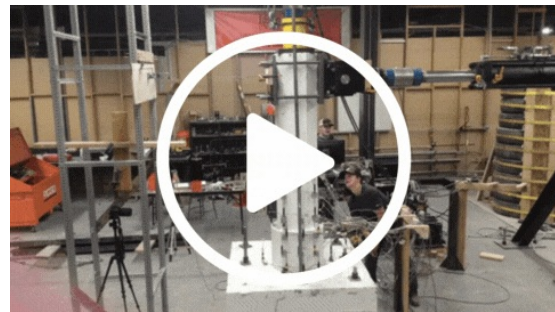
A potential solution to the plastic pollution plaguing the planet is being developed at Idaho State University.

Recently, Cori Jenkins, assistant professor of chemistry, and Joshua Pak, professor and chair of the chemistry department, received a \$583,930 grant from the Department of Energy to look into new, less expensive, and energy-efficient methods of upcycling plastics.

Check out this video from the Civil and Environmental Engineering department's Structural Laboratory (SLAB)!

A while back, Katie Hogarth, Ph.D. student, wrapped up some simulated **earthquake testing of a bridge pier that was retrofitted with ultra-high performance concrete** for the Idaho Transportation Department. The over 3-ton pier was pushed back and forth by the hydraulic ram for 7 hours before failing.

From here, Katie will incorporate the results into her dissertation that she plans to defend in Spring 2024.



### Kiwanis Club of Pocatello Donates \$2,500 to ISU Physics Dept.'s Outreach Programs

Tuesday, members of the Kiwanis Club of Pocatello, presented a \$2,500 check to Steve Shropshire, professor of physics, and Rene Rodriguez, associate dean, to help support the physics department's STEM education efforts. **The club's donation will**

Last weekend, Dean Scott Snyder had the honor of presenting awards and scholarships to Southeast Idaho's top mathletes at the 40th Annual Southeast Idaho Mathcounts Chapter Competition. At the event, students from schools across East Idaho test their math skills in a series of individual and team-based rounds.



## Volunteers Needed for Bengal STEM Day

Bengal STEM Day is Thursday, February 23, and we're looking for volunteers to help with check-in, take lunch tickets, and serve as floating helpers. Volunteers can sign-up for more than one shift.

If you have any questions about volunteering, contact Darin Rieske at x3099 or [darinrieske@isu.edu](mailto:darinrieske@isu.edu).

## Idaho Science and Technology Policy Fellows Sought

The Idaho Science and Technology Policy Fellowship (ISTPF) **calls scientists, social scientists and engineers to work with state agencies and the legislature, learning firsthand about policymaking while using their knowledge and skills to address pressing challenges facing Idaho.**

A doctoral-level science or social science degree, or a master's in engineering and three years of work experience, is required. Fellows receive compensation, benefits, orientation, professional development, mentorship, a travel allowance and administrative support. Submit an application by Sunday, March 26, for the fellowship year beginning in late August.

The ISTPF is a collaborative effort among U of I, Boise State University and Idaho State University, and is led by the McClure Center for Public Policy Research.

## Academic Affairs Faculty and Dean Feedback Survey

Each year the **Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs completes an annual evaluation of Deans** in the following colleges/units: College of Arts and Letters, College of Business, College of Education, College of Science and Engineering, College of Technology, the Graduate School, the Library, and the Idaho Falls campus. The Vice

President of Health Sciences and Senior Vice Provost, in collaboration with the Provost, completes an annual evaluation of the Deans in the College of Health and the College of Pharmacy. The feedback collected in this survey will provide information for consideration in these annual performance evaluations.

## From Around ISU

### Nominations Open for Annual Benny Awards

The Division of Student Affairs is accepting nominations for the annual Benny Awards.

From the unsung champions and emerging leaders to the outstanding club, advisor, or program of the year, the Benny Awards **recognize the accomplishments of our students, colleagues, and alumni who have positively impacted our campus community.**

Please join us in nominating and recognizing those who have made a difference within our campus community.

### Volunteers Needed for Bengal Visit Day

Volunteers are needed for Bengal Visit Day, **one of our largest campus recruitment events, on Saturday, April 22.**

We need help meeting one-on-one with students in your departments/programs, hosting breakout sessions about the great things our campus offers, showing off our clubs and organizations, and more.

This event will be conducted in an open-house format, giving prospective students and their guests the chance to explore ISU on their own terms and participate in several activities.

### ISU OPEN Education Week March 6 - 10

ISU Open Education Week presentations are for instructors and anyone interested in exploring and learning about Open Educational Resources (OER).

**Yunrong Zhu, professor of mathematics and statistics and 2022 Textbook Hero, will present on Monday, March 10 at 11 a.m.** Zhu will explain how he integrated OER materials into Math 3360 Differential Equations and allowed him to customize the course materials to help students learn more easily.

### Save the Date: ISU Teaching and Learning Symposium

On April 6, the Idaho State University Program for Instructional Effectiveness and the College of Education are hosting the first annual ISU Teaching and Learning Symposium. ISU faculty, staff, and graduate assistants are invited to attend and learn more about high-impact practices of teaching.

Dr. James Lang, bestselling education author and writing expert, will provide a keynote presentation to kick-off the symposium starting at noon in the Pond Student Union Building's Wood River Room. A free lunch will be provided to attendees followed by

### Brown Bag Conversation Hour: How to be a better ally

Bring your lunch and **participate in a student-led panel about allyship.** Learn how you can support Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) and other underrepresented community members.

### 2023 ISU Employee Appreciation Week - Call for Proposals

The Office of Human Resources invites Idaho State University **faculty and staff to share a professional or personal development topic at a workshop during Employee Appreciation Week**, April 3 through April 7. All sessions for faculty or staff will be a mix of virtual (zoom based) and in-person events. In the past, we have been taught on a host of topics including learning about brain power, emotional intelligence, strength-based philosophy, gardening tips and tricks, estate planning, Medicare, work-life balance, health and wellness, budgeting, stress management and learning

breakout sessions from 1 - 4 p.m. in the Pond Student Union Building's Salmon River Suites. about your civil rights.

## Dates to Remember

Feb. 20	Early-8 week course grading opens
Feb. 20	Presidents' Day holiday (Monday - no classes)
Feb. 27 - Mar. 3	Mid-term week
Mar. 6	Late 8-week courses begin
Mar. 7	Early 8-week course grading closes at 5:00 pm
Mar. 20 - 24	Spring Break
April 24	Late 8-week and full semester course grading opens
May 1	Final Examinations (May 1 - May 5)
May 5	Spring classes end
May 6	Commencement (May & August 2023 graduates)
May 9	Late 8-week and full semester course grading closes at 5:00pm
May 15	Classes begin for Early-4, Early-6, Early-8 and Full term
May 29	Early-4 final grading opens
May 29	Memorial Day holiday (no classes)

## Upcoming Events in the College of Science and Engineering

For a complete list of CoSE events, check out the [College Event Calendar](#) and click an event to get more details. Updates can also be found on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#), and [Instagram](#). To add events to the calendar, please contact the Administrative Assistants in your department. The university-wide calendar of events is available [here](#).

**Department/Program**

Biological Sciences

**Event**

Botany Club Seed Swap

**Details**

Mon, Feb 20

1 - 3 p.m.

Plant Sciences Lobby

**Department/Program**

Geosciences

**Event**

Colloquium: ISU Geoscience Grad  
Student Talks

Jon Lever

**Details**

Wed, Feb 22

4 - 5 p.m.

PS 108

[https://isu.zoom.us/j/81297633983?  
pwd=L3lwWXVDVjE0emJaTk8zem5kZ  
kc0Zz09](https://isu.zoom.us/j/81297633983?pwd=L3lwWXVDVjE0emJaTk8zem5kZkc0Zz09)

**Department/Program**

Nuclear Engineering

**Event**

Nuclear Science Seminar

**Details**

Wed, Feb 22

4 - 5 p.m.

Meets simultaneously:  
Pocatello (LIBR 32)  
Idaho Falls (CHE 314)

**Department/Program**

Biological Sciences

**Event**

Biology Social

**Details**

Thu, Feb 23

3:30 - 4 p.m.

Gale Life Sciences Building lobby

**Department/Program**

Biological Sciences

**Event**

Seminar: How to Learn Everything  
Important to Know in Physiology and  
Anatomy in 30 Minutes

Curt Anderson  
Professor  
Idaho State University

**Details**

Thu, Feb 23

4 - 5 p.m.

**Department/Program**

Chemistry

**Event**

Seminar

Martin Mosquera  
Montana State**Details**Fri, Feb 24  
1 - 2 p.m.

PSC 144

**Department/Program**

Geosciences

**Event**Colloquium: ISU Geoscience Grad  
Student Talks, Title: TBDKyra Bornong and Andrew Yokel-  
Deliduka**Details**Wed, Mar 1  
4 - 5 p.m.

PS 108

[https://isu.zoom.us/j/81297633983?  
pwd=L3lwWXVDVjE0emJaTk8zem5kZ  
kc0Zz09](https://isu.zoom.us/j/81297633983?pwd=L3lwWXVDVjE0emJaTk8zem5kZkc0Zz09)

**Department/Program**

Nuclear Engineering

**Event**

Nuclear Science Seminar

**Details**Wed, Mar 1  
4 - 5 p.m.Meets simultaneously:  
Pocatello (LIBR 32)  
Idaho Falls (CHE 314)**Department/Program**

Biological Sciences

**Event**

Biology Social

**Details**Thu, Mar 2  
3:30 - 4 p.m.

Gale Life Sciences Building lobby

**Department/Program**

Mathematics and Statistics

**Event**

Seminar: Alternative Grading Systems for Growth

Spencer Bagley  
Westminster College

There are some homework assignments to read over and ponder before the presentation.  
Please see the [CoSE Event Calendar](#) for more details.

**Details**

Fri, Mar 3  
1 - 3 p.m.

PSC 306

<https://isu.zoom.us/j/84878710604>

**Department/Program**

Chemistry

**Event**

Seminar

Jared Shaw  
UC Davis

**Details**

Fri, Mar 3  
1 - 2 p.m.

PSC 144

**Department/Program**

Biological Sciences

**Event**

Biology Career Mixer

**Details**

Tues, Mar 7  
Noon - 2 p.m.

Rendezvous ABC

**Department/Program**

Geosciences

**Event**

Colloquium: ISU Geoscience Grad  
Student Talks, Title: TBD

Tyler Paladino and Matt Ruggiero

**Details**

Wed, Mar 8  
4 - 5 p.m.

PS 108

[https://isu.zoom.us/j/81297633983?  
pwd=L3lwWXVDVjE0emJaTk8zem5kZ  
kc0Zz09](https://isu.zoom.us/j/81297633983?pwd=L3lwWXVDVjE0emJaTk8zem5kZkc0Zz09)

**Department/Program**

Nuclear Engineering

**Event**

Nuclear Science Seminar:  
The Evolving Nuclear Fuel Cycle  
Opportunities and Challenges

Monical Regalbuto  
Idaho National Laboratory

**Details**

Wed, Mar 8  
4 - 5 p.m.

Meets simultaneously:  
Pocatello (LIBR 32)  
Idaho Falls (CHE 314)

**Department/Program**

Biological Sciences

**Event**

Biology Social

**Details**

Thu, Mar 9  
3:30 - 4 p.m.

Gale Life Sciences Building lobby

**Department/Program**

Geosciences

**Event**

Colloquium: ISU Geoscience Grad  
Student Talks, Title: TBD

Gene Rubin

**Details**

Wed, Mar 15  
4 - 5 p.m.

PS 108

[https://isu.zoom.us/j/81297633983?  
pwd=L3lwWXVDVjE0emJaTk8zem5kZ  
kc0Zz09](https://isu.zoom.us/j/81297633983?pwd=L3lwWXVDVjE0emJaTk8zem5kZkc0Zz09)

**Department/Program**

Nuclear Engineering

**Event**

Nuclear Science Seminar:

**Details**

Wed, Mar 15  
4 - 5 p.m.

Meets simultaneously:  
Pocatello (LIBR 32)  
Idaho Falls (CHE 314)

**Department/Program**

Biological Sciences

**Event**

Biology Social

**Details**

Thu, Mar 16  
3:30 - 4 p.m.

Gale Life Sciences Building lobby

**Department/Program**

Biological Sciences

**Event**

Seminar:  
Title TBD

Matthew Dean  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Animal Sciences,  
University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

**Details**

Thu Mar 16  
4 - 5 p.m.

LC 10

**Help Us Share Your Accomplishments!**

Our College's outstanding faculty, staff, and students achieve many notable research and professional accomplishments. In addition, our departments regularly have newsworthy advancements. We want to make sure those stories are shared publicly. Here are a few ways you can provide a news tip to help get the word out:



Use this [Story Submission Form](#) to send your news tip to the Office of Marketing and Communications.

Send an email to Logan McDougall ([loganmcdougall@isu.edu](mailto:loganmcdougall@isu.edu)) with a brief description of the news to be shared.

You are always welcome to create a draft story, submit it via the [Story Submission Form](#), or send it to Logan. The Office of Marketing and Communications and Logan will coordinate to get the story finalized and distributed to the media outlets/platforms that best tell the story.

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