The pivot to the Fall 2020 semester is in full swing and I think everyone is happy to see some semblance of normalcy returning – imperfect as that normalcy might be – and returning to more familiar patterns of life. Personally, I find some comfort in the condition we’re in, knowing full well that the College of Technology has done a truly remarkable job preparing, adjusting, and collaborating together under these challenging and ever-changing circumstances.

I am profoundly grateful for not only the faculty and staff who spent the summer in earnest preparing for a safe return, but for our students who adapted and eagerly supported all efforts to return to campus. The strong community of students, staff, and faculty shined ever so brightly during these difficult times. Health occupation students stepped up to perform temperature checks and provide face coverings so aircraft maintenance students could finish course work required by the FAA. The college pulled together to create a drive-through graduation in accordance with CDC guidelines to celebrate our graduates whose ceremony had been cancelled. These are but a few of the examples that exemplify the outstanding community of people in the College of Technology.

In collaboration with the University our faculty and staff worked tirelessly to ensure health protocols like face coverings, physical distancing, and sanitizing public spaces were the standard. We invested in technology like never before to ensure our students, in person or online, had access to the tools and resources they needed to be successful in their course of study.

Our commitment to our students is as unwavering as ever. The last few months have challenged us to reimagine and elevate how we support our students in ways that will help them emerge stronger and more prepared for the future ahead. The completion of the William M. and Karin A. Eames Advanced Technical Education and Innovations Complex helped to bolster our efforts in providing exemplary learning and career opportunities for our students.

By joining our college community students place trust in our faculty and staff to help them build the knowledge they need to change their lives and make an impact in the world around them. Over the summer holiday I was able to hear about this very impact from a family while out camping remotely. A young man flagged me down while out on my dirt bike to thank me for the incredible impact his education at the College of Technology had not only on his life, but on the life of his brother. It turned out that these two brothers were graduates of our ESTEC programs and were extremely excited to share their great success in industry over the past several years. They mentioned several times how much their education had changed their lives and how well it prepared them to be successful. Their mother even expressed sincere gratitude for the skills and careers our programs were able to provide for her sons.

While I know that this is just one of many incredible student stories, it provides sincere support that the education and experience students receive through the College of Technology does make an impact and a difference. I could not be prouder of the people who work so tirelessly to provide the best for our students.

This year has been one of many hurdles, but we have conquered each one in our path and remained true to our goal; provide extraordinary education and opportunities for the betterment of our students’ future. With many mixed feelings and emotions, I have tendered my notice that I will be retiring effective January 15th, 2021. After a great deal of thought and consideration, I feel it is the right time for me to step away from my beloved College of Technology and make room for fresh, new leadership.

I feel blessed to have had the opportunity to work at Idaho State University, especially the College of Technology, for over 28 years. My associations with this college represent the finest experiences I’ve had in my career. I will always be grateful for our faculty and staff’s examples of tremendous dedication and love for students and for the collaboration I have felt from each of you. I believe this College is on a great trajectory and poised to do even more amazing things in the coming years.

Sincerely,

R. Scott Rasmussen
Dean for the College of Technology
The Tech Annual is distributed to more than 20,000 alumni, donors, and friends around the world. Please send comments, feedback, and story ideas to ctech@isu.edu.

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The William M. & Karin A. Eames Advanced Technical Education and Innovations Complex excitedly welcomed students through its recently renovated doors at the beginning of the fall semester. Students eagerly entered their new lab and classroom space, thrilled to be able to work with state-of-the-art equipment.

Over the past three years, the Eames Complex has gone through a dramatic change. Seventy-five percent of the interior of the building has been completely redone, updated, and enhanced to accommodate the growing needs of the College of Technology programs. The complex is now home to the Automotive Technology, Auto Collision Repair and Refinishing, Diesel Technology, Welding, Computerized Machining Technology, and Computer Aided Design Drafting programs. The new facility provides students with the hands-on technical training required for their fields of study while also simulating the real-world working environments they will enter upon graduation.

This new facility is a highly celebrated achievement for Idaho State University (ISU) and the College of Technology. In February of 2017 ISU announced plans to relocate several College of Technology programs to meet growing enrollment and capacity needs. With the completion of the Eames Complex, a number of synergistic opportunities for STEM-related programs will now have the ability to grow. The master plan involves three phases, with the completed project totaling $22 million.

William M. Eames, for whom the building is named after, a dedicated alumnus and longtime donor pledged a $2.5 million gift to support the new facility. His pledge is the lead gift to a completed $5 million campaign.

"ISU gave me an opportunity many years ago that I will be forever grateful for and it will always hold
a special place in my heart. We appreciate being able to make a gift that will allow a wide diversity of students to advance their education and secure careers in high-demand, well-paying fields,” said Eames. He continued by saying, “I remember touring the old building where these programs were held and speaking to students who were striving to improve their lives through education. It is exciting to be able to make an impact and provide an opportunity for these students to work in a state-of-the-art classroom setting.”

The road to funding the massive renovations that were needed to bring the old building into the modern era was not a simple one. The monumental task was made easier by the $2 million donation announced in December 2019. The J.A. and Kathryn Albertson Family Foundation’s (JKAF) gift was given as part of the impressive advisory support, job placement success, and the delivery of relevant post-secondary experiences that ISU and College of Technology provides to its students.

“We applaud the ISU College of Technology leadership and commitment to providing certificates, credentials and degrees that lead to meaningful employment opportunities for its graduates,” Roger Quarles, executive director or JKAF said. “The foundation believes that ISU’s and College of Technology’s commitment to expanding these types of educational opportunities will pay big dividends to our state.”

Walking past the large windows that now look into the new classroom and lab spaces, one can see the impact this new facility is providing for current and future students. The expanded spaces provide students the opportunity to collaborate with each other while working on large diesel engines or underneath a car. The ability to incorporate new technology into teaching provides students with experiences that set them apart from the rest of the workforce and the expanded space provides faculty with the opportunity to accommodate more prospective students into their programs.

The skills and development that ISU and the College of Technology provides to its students has not gone unnoticed. In February of 2020, ISU was awarded a $2.3 million economic development administration grant to assist in the completion of the Eames Complex by building a separate on-site power generation building. The grant is the lead development opportunity to an additional $2.3 million Bill Eames provided to complete the project.

“The hands-on training our graduates receive in this program not only prepares them for successful careers but also meets a critical workforce need
in our communities,” said ISU President, Kevin Satterlee. “Receiving this grant will help us to expand opportunities and meet an ever-growing demand.” The Eames Complex will not only provide increased experiences and opportunities for the students directly involved in the programs housed there, but will also provide more opportunities for the entirety of the College of Technology. The spaces once occupied by computerized machining technology will be renovated and become a new state-of-the-art hospital simulation lab for the health occupation programs. This investment into the Eames Complex showcases the importance ISU and the College of Technology places on students and the impact it can have on their futures.

“This is a unique opportunity to merge higher education and career technical skills together,” said Idaho Governor, Brad Little. “The skill level that students need to work at important Idaho industries is significantly more advanced then it has been in years past. We have to continue to do all we can to provide learning and career opportunities for our state,” Little said.

The Eames Advanced Technical Education and Innovations Complex will always serve as a reminder of the incredible impact students can have if they are given the opportunity and the tools to succeed.
Going the Distance Inside and Outside the Classroom

By Aubi Crabtree

At the College of Technology, we take pride in having well-rounded faculty that are outstanding inside and outside of the classroom. When occupational therapy assistant (OTA) instructor Brittany Peterson is not teaching in the classroom, she can be found enjoying the outdoors running trails in the Pocatello area. Peterson’s unique hobby involves training and running 100-mile ultra-marathon races. In 2019, Peterson finished second in the Western States 100-Mile Endurance Run recording the fourth fastest women’s time in the race’s history. Peterson completed this incredible race in around 17 ½ hours. The Western States Run is considered the “Super Bowl” of ultra-long-distance trail running in the United States. Held in the Sierra Nevada mountains of California, the Western States Run starts in Squaw Valley and ends in Auburn where participants trek through 18,000 feet of elevation gain and descend 23,000 feet throughout the race.

“I was kind of an underdog, because I don’t have a ton of national recognition at the 100-mile distance,” said Peterson, “I was confident in my training. I knew the course and I knew how to execute.” Peterson, who is sponsored by Nike Trail Runner, incorporates her running around her OTA teaching schedule. She finds that the Pocatello area has a tight-knit community and great trail systems that provides an optimal training location. Peterson likes to train with her dogs, two huskies and a pitbull (pictured).

Peterson’s love for running in the Pocatello outdoors has not only proven to be an advantage in her teaching style, but also in recruiting prospective students to join the OTA program. “When I lead tours with potential students I can share that I am more of a small-town girl who loves outdoor recreation and Pocatello can be a beautiful blend for students,” Peterson explains.

Peterson has been an instructor with the College of Technology since 2018 and has worked in the occupational therapy field since 2011. As Peterson explains, “I feel like I blend both worlds. Being good in my profession and being good in a specialized sport requires the same drive and enthusiasm. My boss tells me that running is an asset for me as an OTA instructor versus a hindrance, because it shows students well-roundedness, responsibility and dedication.”

Peterson is a prime example of the College of Technology faculty who continue to show various abilities and skills outside the classroom that can be incorporated into their teaching. These exceptional experiences help instructors demonstrate the importance of being well-rounded individuals to the students they teach and interact with.
In late February, more than 100 high schools and middle schools from across the state descended on the Idaho State University campus to participate in Idaho’s biggest robotics competition, VEX. Hosted by the College of Technology’s Robotics and Communications Systems Engineering Technology program, students arrived prepared to compete with a robot they spent months creating in hopes of taking home the state championship title.

The VEX Robotics Competition is the state championships for robotics teams. In preparing for the competition, each competing team received a VEX Kit (including all the metal-base piece, bolts, screws and wireless programing software) and were challenged to build a working robot that could complete tasks ranging from flipping caps to building towers.

“It’s eye-opening to see the robots these students design, build and program each season to compete in the engineering challenge,” said Shane Slack, coordinator and instructor of the College of Technology’s Robotics and Communications Systems Engineering Technology program. The value of the VEX competition according to Slack is that it, “provides young students with an engaging hands-on learning experience that instills a passion for STEM (Science, Technology Engineering, Math) and teaches them how to become critical problem solvers.”

This was the first time that Idaho State University has hosted the state tournament, led by the College of Technology robotics program and assisted by the ISU Robotics Club. “These students get super excited. They spend all this time programming, building, trouble-shooting to get it to what they envision on paper,” said Dane Davids, President of the ISU Robotics Club, “then they get to build it and see it work or not work.”

Sponsors such as the Idaho National Laboratory, Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories, and the Idaho STEM Action Center allowed the robotics program to purchase the lighting and audio video equipment needed to enhance the VEX Robotics Competition taking the competition to the next level.

With the growing demand for STEM pioneers and leaders in the world, it is becoming increasingly imperative to inspire younger generations in learning about and exploring technology-centered careers. The VEX Robotics Competition is the perfect start to inspire these future innovators into continuing with their education through college and earning an associate or bachelor’s degree and introducing them to the College of Technology’s Robotics and Communications Systems Engineering Technology program. Over the last 20 years, the robotics program has had near 100 percent positive placement with graduates working across the world in careers that are on the front line for building and creating new technologies.
The Idaho State University’s College of Technology (COT) hosted a unique carpool graduation celebration to honor graduating seniors, whose commencement ceremony was cancelled due to COVID-19. This special graduation celebration was created to showcase the college’s love and support for all COT students during an unprecedented time.

“This was a rather different celebration than we originally planned for, however it was important to us as a college to celebrate the achievements of our students.”

By Courtney Rhodes Mason
students,” said Scott Rasmussen, Dean of the ISU College of Technology.

Students and their families and friends were invited to drive through the Eames Innovation Complex parking lot to be celebrated by the college’s faculty and staff parked along the route. The designated path through the Eames parking lot allowed faculty and staff to be parked with their cars decorated, holding signs of encouragement as students and their families drove through so they can still have some semblance of graduation and being recognized for their achievements. Dean Rasmussen handed out College of Technology medals to students who attended.

This unique celebration allowed the college to connect as a community while also maintaining social distancing guidelines. This was a special opportunity for students and college faculty and staff to come together when they had spent the spring semester separated and completing their courses virtually. In addition to the carpool graduation celebration, faculty through out the college recorded and sent in special video messages to students graduating from their individual programs. These small videos were combined into one large celebratory video and shared across all COT social media platforms. These special graduation moments helped to provide connection between staff, faculty, and students when faced with unimaginable struggle. While it may not have been the graduation students had wanted, it did provide an opportunity for the College of Technology community to come together and shine a spotlight on the tremendous achievement of our graduates.
“Inspirational” might be one of the best words to describe Dr. Henry Oh, Chair and Clinical Professor of the Health Occupations Department in the College of Technology at Idaho State University. While he may not be a world-famous household name, those who know him personally would agree he has inspired or motivated them in more than just one way.

Dr. Oh comes from Vancouver, Canada. It was his dream to become a physician someday. He earned his Bachelor’s degree in Medical Technology as a pre-med degree with his sights on attending medical school. As a first-generation college student, however, he and his late parents did not have the financial means to achieve his dream although he was accepted into the medical school twice. Undaunted, he pursued his career in the medical field as a medical technologist and later as a respiratory therapist. He continued his training and now holds a Doctorate of Education with summa cum laude honors, where he has excelled in teaching and made many contributions to this field. He was recognized as U.S. National Teacher of the Year in 2007, and as a Master Teacher of Honor in 2013. In 2018, he received an honorary doctorate degree in humanities (honoris causa) from the International Institute of Leaders. In addition, he was recognized as an Outstanding Achiever for Medicine and Allied Sciences in 2017 by the Asia Pacific Excellence Awards.

Dr. Oh has also been the recipient of ten (10) national awards from the American Medical Technologists including the Editor of the Year award in 2014. He is a Fellow of the Association of Clinical Scientists, a Fellow of the Human Biology Association, and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Biology in U.K. He went to London and Paris to pursue the biology credential. He is a Registered Respiratory Therapist, Certified Medical Technologist, Chartered Biologist, and a Certified Clinical Trauma Specialist-Family.

His international medical experience includes an assignment in the Middle East when he was hired by a British company during the Gulf War to work in a hospital in the eastern providence of Saudi Arabia bordering Kuwait. Henry and his team were prepared for a wide range of issues involving casualties of war, trauma, industrial fire burn victims, to handling gas...
masks in the event of chemical warfare. He worked as a respiratory therapist in Oklahoma, as a medical technologist in Arkansas, and later as an instructor in several colleges in Southern California and New Mexico.

Dr. Oh’s love for teaching has allowed him to utilize his clinical skills and incorporate work experiences into the theoretical learning environment of the class room.

“The moment I enter a classroom and see the students, I feel at home. I love teaching and that is my strength. All the life experiences I have, I relate them to the topics or lessons in the class. I always try to provide examples that I have had,” he said. “I love being able to interact and engage with students. I want to help them succeed and have the presence of mind to be successful in their chosen health occupations.”

While Dr. Oh does not teach as much in his current role as department chair, he is still able to help students succeed through his faculty. Using his educational and career experiences, he is able to visualize how all the different pieces of health occupations can work together. This cohesive nature allows him to work fluidly with both students and faculty.

“During my time in New Mexico, I learned that to help students succeed you need to create a positive learning environment and earn the respect and trust of your students. Speak with them and give them regular feedback and be open to their responses,” he said. “I do the same thing with my faculty and staff by directly communicating with them and getting feedback. I talk to my faculty and staff not only when there is a need, but to ask them how they are. I also put some humor to make our conversations lively. I also provide students with the opportunity to provide feedback on the faculty. It is needed to help people continue to improve.”

Dr. Oh appreciates the hard work and dedication of his faculty and staff by recognizing them with awards and certificates. He also recognizes students for academic excellence. He believes that showing appreciation to people’s work or contributions helps build a stronger team in an organization.

“Dr. Oh really excels in his expertise. He was my mentor when I worked with him in Jeddah and inspired me to push through and get my bachelor’s degree,” said one former student.

This passion for his students and faculty is what earned him his latest achievement, Top Educator Award as U.S. Professor of the Year in Health Sciences. This national award is a loud proclamation to the inspiration that Dr. Oh provides to those around him.

“I am a professor of medicine and have known Dr. Oh for over fifteen years. He is a terrific leader and a deeply decent man. I am very supportive of his achievements and proud to call him a friend,” said Dr. Jerry Roberson, Associate Professor in the College of Medicine at the University of Science, Arts, and Technology.

The College of Technology is excited to welcome him and eager to see the things he can achieve for the students and faculty under his care. With little less than a year under his belt as department chair, Henry has already risen the bar for his programs.

He and his team have been working on a state-of-the-art hospital simulation lab that will allow students from all programs to train side by side in a real hospital environment. The lab will include ER, ICU, ambulance bay, and labor and delivery areas. This interdisciplinary lab will provide students with the leadership and teamwork skills that are needed to be successful in the workforce. In addition to the simulation lab, Henry has also found the time to author a clinical anatomy & physiology textbook. He plans to contribute the royalties earned into a scholarship to help first generation college students purchase text books.

Dr. Oh has big dreams and even bigger goals for the health occupation programs. He is humble and always quick to give credit to the faculty and staff in his department. He understands it is the quality of their work and dedication to their job that allows health occupations students to thrive. He is also grateful to the support provided by the other departments in the College of Technology. Lastly, Dr. Oh is a self-taught pianist who performs in fundraising events and in national conventions.
This type of practical experience for the students is invaluable as we prepare them to enter the skilled work force both locally and across the globe.

-Darren Leavitt, Civil Engineering Technology program Coordinator
Students in the Civil Engineering Technology (CET) program at the Idaho State University College of Technology program played a critical role in helping restore the “I” on Red Hill.

“The ‘I’ on Red Hill is an important part of the legacy of Idaho State University,” said President Kevin Satterlee. “This monument symbolizes the traditions that have shaped our great institution, and it will forever be a hallmark that alumni can return to and celebrate our history.”

The new “I” is 71 feet long and 24 feet wide. It was designed by a team of ISU civil and environmental engineering students who were assisted by faculty in the same department. ISU Facilities Services provided project management and oversight. A&E Engineering was the engineer of record and advised the team of ISU students on the design. Starr Corporation was the contractor who built the infrastructure and installed the “I.” The ISU College of Technology’s CET program did the surveying for the project.

The construction of the “I” has been funded by the Rice Family Foundation, in honor of Dr. Lawrence H. Rice, who for 34 years worked at ISU as an English professor who eventually became academic vice president. Several generations of the Rice family are ISU alumni. The cost of replacing the “I” was approximately $225,000.

In the preliminary stages of the project, Dr. James Mahar, ISU College of Science and Engineering (COSE) faculty, contacted Darren Leavitt, ISU College of Technology (COT) faculty, and asked for help from CET students to survey Red Hill and create a topographic map that would be used to identify possible placement of a new “I”. “We were able to use this project in our class and had students using GPS to identify the terrain of the hill, much like they would be asked to do in the industry,” said Leavitt.

This provided an amazing learning experience for the students in the CET program. The project consisted of obtaining field data, preparing and drawing earthwork maps, and planning construction staking tasks.

“This type of practical experience for the students is invaluable as we prepare them to enter the skilled work force both locally and across the globe,” said Leavitt.

Students were able to apply their hands-on and classroom training to a real-world project. Students first did the fieldwork by collecting information using cutting edge global positioning system (GPS) receivers to create a topographic map of Red Hill within an accuracy of an inch. In the classroom, they manipulated the data using AutoCAD Civil 3D computer software and then discussed the findings as a class. Next, the students presented two options for placement of the “I” with Dr. Mahar.

Funding and marketing for the project was solicited using a 3D rendering of Red Hill that the CET students had previously created using drone technology.

Once the funding was secured and the project started, the topographic map the CET students created was used to identify where excavation for the footings would be dug to determine depth of bedrock, which would be used to anchor the foundation of the new “I”. The “I” was placed on a 34-degree slope so students were no longer allowed on the construction site, but CET coordinator and instructor, Darren Leavitt, assisted in positioning the bases for the foundation of the “I”. “Working on that type of slope presented plenty of challenges, however, the contractor did everything they could to make the area safe and accessible. They were amazing to work with and were always available to help with the equipment and the multiple trips up and down the slope,” said Leavitt.

Photo on opposite page: Darren Leavitt climbing the Red Hill slope to ensure proper placement of the footing used on the new ‘I’.
Brock Gunter has gotten creative virtually teaching online what is generally a "hands-on" class, broadcasting classes on Zoom, using a GoPro camera to teach lessons and introducing his students to interactive online programs.

When there isn’t a coronavirus pandemic going on, the College of Technology’s automotive technology program’s Automotive Live-Work course is a capstone, eight-credit, six-hour-a-day course where soon-to-be-graduating students have the opportunity to work directly on cars. But in April 2020, that just isn’t possible.

“Usually the students are just in the shop all day long working on customer vehicles,” Gunter said. “It has been very hard on my students because they are at the point where they are putting together everything they’ve learned to do to go out into the shop and work-live on cars. It’s tough making that transition when they don’t get hands-on experience.”

One of the methods he uses is filming repair jobs he is doing with a GoPro camera, and then embedding
that video inside of a PowerPoint presentation that he presents to students virtually using the Zoom application.

"Using the GoPros, I am videoing while working on vehicles going through the whole diagnostics and repair process, and do the paperwork as well," Gunter said.

This week Gunter is creating a lesson on replacing an engine, an 8- to 10-hour job. He will film the entire process and then using time-lapse shooting and editing he will reduce the job to a 10- to 15-minute video. The video can be stopped for question-and-answer sessions.

"Brock is going over the top showing the cars and showing the problem," said Trapper Miles, a student in the program from Blackfoot. "He makes it as close to being hands-on as it can be."

Miles said he appreciates the interactive aspect of the virtual class.

"You can talk to him and ask as many questions as you need, all the while being in the safety of your controlled environment," Miles said. "Brock goes above and beyond to make sure we understand a lesson as well as if we were in a class next to him."

Gunter is also having his students use "e-learning" books and online lessons.

"In the automotive world, there are all kinds of e-learning books out there," he said. "One of the ones I am using is Electude, an e-learning platform with over a 1,000 interactive lessons. The best thing for my class is the diagnostic simulator where the students have to pick a tool out of their virtual tool box and use it. It is pretty good for diagnosing care without having hands-on work available."

Gunter said it has been a challenge to prepare for classes. His prep work includes creating the PowerPoint presentations that have his instructional videos embedded in them and then has an interactive Zoom meeting with his students where he asks them what they’d do in specific situations.

Changing a hands-on class to a virtual class has also been challenging for his students.

"I’d say it has even been a bit tougher for my students," Gunter said. "They look forward to this class – it is usually the favorite part of the program where they just get to work all day long and don’t listen to a lecture. I’m doing my best to simulate online what we are generally doing out in the shop."

His students have expressed appreciation for his efforts.

"I think it’s an awesome experience even though it is very different," Miles said. "Brock has made it interesting and it also is something to look forward to."
In most medical classrooms, human mannequins, blood pressure cuffs and anatomy skeletons are an expected sight. However, a medical classroom filled with excited high school students anxiously engaged in hands-on training may come as a surprise. But this is not a regular high school class, it’s a Career and Technical (CTE) Dual Credit Medical Assisting (MA) course that is helping to ignite student passion through exploratory learning in high-wage, high-growth careers. As a collaboration between regional high schools and the College of Technology, students are exposed to skills-based careers in high-growth industries, allowing them to earn college credit and jump-start their college education.

Throughout the region, the College of Technology is expanding the use of CTE dual credit programs, as a means to bridge secondary and postsecondary education. This brings unique and innovative learning experiences to high school students in high-demand, high-growth industries. As one of those industries, Medical Assisting (MA) was identified as a program with significant capacity for employment growth and expansion across the country.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment of medical assistants is projected to grow 23% between 2018 and 2028, which is much faster than the average of all occupations. To help meet this growing need, the College of Technology partnered with School District 25 in 2019 to deliver this program to students in Pocatello.

Students are able to take multiple college courses across their junior and senior years in high school, with a potential of earning enough credit to finish up to a semester or more in the College of Technology Medical Assisting program.

As an associate’s degree program, students have the choice to attend the College of Technology after graduating high school and finish their final semester or two in the MA program, or even apply to other health occupations programs offered at the college. Students save time and money in taking these college courses in high school and gain real-world skills as they begin to envision themselves in health-related careers.

As part of the CTE dual credit program, College of Technology faculty work with a qualified high school teacher to teach these same college courses in a high school setting. Many hours are spent in mentoring, training and supporting high school teachers as they deliver the same curriculum in their classrooms as is provided on the college campus.

According to Kristina Jordan, the MA teacher at Century High School in Pocatello, “Having the Medical Assisting program available to high school students is such an amazing opportunity that allows students to build a career and provides for a higher success rate when they graduate. Taking these dual credit courses provides a stepping stone for a successful career and puts the students on track to succeed academically.”

As the College of Technology continues to grow CTE dual credit, these programs become increasingly important to help students not only save money and time in their college journey but also build a vision for their future. With the increase in middle-skill jobs continuing to grow across the state and nation, the College of Technology continues to be a state-wide leader in successfully bridging the educational gaps in communities by creating and growing successful programs.
In Fall 2020, Idaho State University’s College of Technology launched the country’s first Bachelor of Applied Science in Cyber-Physical Systems Engineering Technology degree program. This novel offering provides a pathway for a variety of associate degree holders to obtain a bachelor degree in the emerging field of cyber-physical systems.

“It’s a very exciting opportunity to offer to students within the College of Technology,” said Sean McBride, Industrial Cybersecurity Program Coordinator. “We now have a clear and compelling pathway for students from instrumentation, electrical engineering, mechanical engineering, information technology systems, and several other fields to achieve their bachelor degree that we didn’t have before.”

The bachelor program includes intensive industrial cybersecurity, management, and communication oriented courses, aimed to produce an interdisciplinary professional capable of interacting well with IT, industrial operations, and cybersecurity organizations. The Idaho National Laboratory (INL) – a significant regional employer in the cybersecurity field endorsed the program with a letter of support it wrote in 2019: “With an eye towards the future, INL supports workforce development opportunities that provide a clear pathway from technical certificates to graduate degrees dealing with cybersecurity, as a way for Southeast Idahoans to progressively upskill their careers.

“In particular, we voice our support for the proposed Bachelor of Applied Science in Cyber Physical Systems Engineering Technology degree as a way to meet the country’s needs for field engineers, plant engineers, and technicians who will build security into their job functions as well as provide a hands-on knowledge base for future researchers and graduate students.”

In August 2020, the INL hired ISU College of Technology graduate Kathryn Fetzer, who incorporated the Industrial Cybersecurity courses as part of her individualized BAS degree plan (while the new degree was seeking approval) as an Industrial Control Systems Security Analyst.

“Cybersecurity is huge; there are so many different avenues that people can go down. It’s so fascinating because it is not a field where you will know everything. You have to keep learning and evolving in order to keep up. It really engages you and keeps you interested,” Fetzer said. “The biggest thing I took away from this program was that I can create my own pathway. I gained so much knowledge from my courses but I was also able to pick out the things that I wanted from these different classes to create my own position.”

“One thing I love about the program” explained McBride, “is that these students probably know more than I do about electricity, or generators, or instrumentation. We are creating a new class of engineering and technology professional, who don’t just do cyber, they do something else and cyber. That’s what our country needs.”
Helping People Feel Beautiful
By Aubi Crabtree

"I love going with a student and the client to our Hair Loft. The client usually comes in just wanting to hide from the world; to leaving with a wig and feeling like a million bucks. Their whole personality comes out, shoulders back and chin lifted up after we find and fit a wig just for them.
-Casie Jensen, Cosmetology Program Coordinator

The College of Technology’s Cosmetology program joined forces with a local non-profit bicycle club who sponsors a lady only ride and race called “Spinderella” to celebrate the grand opening of the new wig room, aptly named “The Hair Loft”. The $2,000 donation given by Spinderella helped provide a new home for more than 200 wigs that can be loaned out to anyone in the community suffering from medically induced hair loss.

The Hair Loft is the new space of the already existing cosmetology Wigs-on-Loan program. Through the program, cosmetology students get the chance to work with clients who have suffered hair loss and illness. Students learn the proper way to fit and care for the wigs and also how to show compassion for their clients suffering from hair loss. Casie Jensen, coordinator and instructor for the Cosmetology..."
program, says “I love going with a student and the client to our Hair Loft. The client usually comes in just wanting to hide from the world; to leaving with a wig and feeling like a million bucks. Their whole personality comes out, shoulders back and chin lifted up after we find and fit a wig just for them.”

While the Hair Loft has only been opened for a short time, it has already made a difference in the lives of students, instructors and community members. In the fall of 2019, 18-year-old student Whitney Kirkeby-Joyner entered the Cosmetology program and soon after was diagnosed with cancer. Whitney began radiation treatment and chemotherapy while still working as a cosmetology student. When Whitney began losing her hair due to her cancer treatment, she was able to work with her classmates and instructors to help her with the wig fitting and finding different hair textures and styles to replace her naturally curly hair. She is the first cosmetology student to use The Hair Loft services. Whitney passed away in her home this past July due to a rare form of cancer.

“Whitney was sweet, energetic and had such a passion for cosmetology,” explains Jensen, “Everybody loved Whitney.” In honor of Whitney, the cosmetology students, instructors, clients and the College of Technology community helped support “Haircuts of Whitney” fundraiser raising almost $3,000 to help with medical expenses for Whitney. “Coming together and helping Whitney will always be a memory our instructors and students will cherish,” said Jensen, “Whitney loved life and she always had a positive attitude even when she was struggling. She had a joy for life that was cut short.”

“Whitney was brave, strong and a joy to have as a student. She fought with the strength of a warrior while bringing sunshine into the program every day,” said Jensen. “She will always be a part of the ISU cosmetology family. Missed but never forgotten.”

The Hair Loft’s new home is located in room 267 of the College of Technology Roy F. Christensen Building, 777 Memorial Drive in Pocatello. Wigs can be checked out to anyone in the community who is suffering from medically induced hair loss for a $10 refundable deposit.
Cosmetology Salon Gets a Modern, New Look  
By Aubi Crabtree

The Cosmetology program, serving as one of the first and most cherished programs at Idaho State University, was established in 1937. Cosmetology students have historically received direct training, working on clients from the community in a salon setting, helping them to look and feel beautiful. Over the decades, various changes have been made to the cosmetology program curriculum, however one thing that has remained stagnant is the out of date salon space. Resembling vintage 1970’s beauty décor, flooring, and stations, the salon has been in dire need of a modern renovation. In early 2020, the 83 year old cosmetology program finally received that upgrade with help from Idaho State University, the College of Technology, and the money the cosmetology program has been saving for years to use for this remodel.

With the total cost of nearly $93,000, the remodel transformed the cosmetology salon space from old and outdated to a modern, 21st century look. Originally scheduled to last 5 weeks, renovations began in March. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, renovations took extra time and were completed before the end of the summer. Because of this increased amount of time, additional renovations were added and completed. A full replacement of all ceiling tiles, new lighting, and remodeling of the dispense room was finished. The dispense is where the salon stores supplies, towels, chemicals, perms, color, and other needed items. New flooring and paint topped off the remodel with an amazing and vibrant look.

“We are now able to compete with privately owned schools. We not only have the best instructors in Idaho but we now look like we belong in the 21st century,” explains Casie Jensen, Cosmetology program coordinator and instructor. In addition to the
renovations, 14 more salon stations were added by removing three walls which increased the floor space to accommodate a total of 41 stations. “The new stations are sleek, black and modern,” said Jensen, “This remodel is night and day compared to the space we were working with before. We are so grateful to all who made it possible financially and physically.”

The beautiful renovations have brought new life to the Cosmetology program as they welcome students and clients to the salon. “The Cosmetology program has been a hidden treasure at ISU, but not anymore. This treasure has been brought into the 21st century,” said Jensen, “Our instructors and students are extremely proud of where they work and get their education. We are open for business!”

The Cosmetology program currently accepts 20 new students every fall and spring semester for the 3½ semester program. Upon completion the student receives an Intermediate Technical Certificate in Cosmetology. The cosmetology program also offers a one-semester Nail Technology Basic Technical Certificate. In May 2021, the cosmetology program will offer its first 100-hour barber license preparation class. To qualify for this 100-hour barbering course the student must hold a current Idaho Cosmetology license. The cosmetology program welcomes clients to call (208) 282-2866 to schedule an appointment. The salon features services such as hair cutting, coloring, perming, manicures, pedicures, facials, waxing and much more.
New Hospitality Management Program Will Fill Local Job Market Needs  
By Aubi Crabtree

The College of Technology’s newest program, Hospitality Management, will welcome students beginning in the fall of 2021 as they train for careers in the entertainment, hotel, and food services management industry. The Hospitality Management program was developed from the Business Technology program, which is also part of the College of Technology. This new program looks to fill a growing need in the local and regional job market.

The idea of developing a hospitality management program began in early 2019 as Idaho State University President, Kevin Satterlee and the Shoshone-Bannock Tribal Council met and signed a Memorandum of Agreement committing that the university and the Shoshone-Bannock tribes would work together to enhance education and cultural opportunities in Southeast Idaho.

The Idaho State University Native American Scholarship was established during this time and provides a reduced tuition rate of $60 per credit hour to members of Idaho’s five federally-recognized Native American tribes, including, Shoshone-Bannock, Nez Perce, Shoshone-Paiute, Kootenai, and Coeur d’Alene.

In addition to Idaho State University’s commitment to working together with the Shoshone-Bannock tribes and mission to fill growing industry needs, the Shoshone-Bannock tribes specifically requested a degree option from the College of Technology in hospitality management to prepare tribal members for careers working in tribal businesses, such as the Shoshone-Bannock Casino and Hotel.

Duane Rawlings, coordinator and instructor for the Business Technology program and Hospitality Management program, has been working closely with the Shoshone-Bannock tribal members, Idaho State University, and the Southeast Idaho community to integrate partnerships and set up the Hospitality Management program. “We are excited to fill a need in the community,” said Rawlings. “It is great to have a working relationship with the Shoshone-Bannock community, but also Pocatello and the Southeast Idaho area.”

The Hospitality Management curriculum features unique classes such as introduction to hospitality, customer service and conflict resolution, introduction to food and beverage, computerized accounting, and events management and marketing. Jeff Glissendorf, who has worked as a general manager for Townplace Suites by Marriott since 2013, and helped open the Shoshone Bannock Hotel in 2011, has been hired as an adjunct faculty to teach the Introduction to Hospitality class. Glissendorf is considered an industry expert in managing and opening new hotels and was eager to share his knowledge and expertise with students. “I like to structure my class by teaching from experience and using storytelling,” describes Glissendorf, “During my lectures, I find myself constantly pulling from situational experiences I have been in and using that to engage students.”

Glissendorf has worked in nine different hotels and has helped open five hotels during the course of his career. He currently serves on the College of Technology Business Technology Advisory Board, is active in the Pocatello Chamber of Commerce, and serves on the Visit Pocatello Tourism Board. “The tourism industry is the second biggest money-maker in Idaho behind agriculture. There are constantly new hotels opening,” explains Glissendorf. “The need for training in hospitality management is great and the sky is the limit as far as job opportunities.”

The College of Technology currently has 20 tribal members enrolled in special topics courses in Hospitality Management as they prepare to fully enroll in the program in the fall of 2021. Stackable degree options allow students the option to earn a one-semester technical certificate to a two-year associate degree, and beyond.

While the agreement between the Shoshone-Bannock tribes and Idaho State University is a local partnership with many students coming from close by, students from across Idaho are encouraged to enroll in the new program. The hospitality management program will not only look to train students for local careers in Southeast Idaho but across the nation as the hospitality industry continues to expand. As Rawlings enthusiastically explains, “We are ready and excited to graduate students with a skill set to meet industry demand!”
From Teachers Assistant to Lead Teacher, Amber Sims credits the Idaho State University College of Technology’s Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) program for assisting in her success.

Sims graduated from the ECCE program in May of 2020 with an associate of applied science. She started the program after she had been working at Head Start at the Lincoln Early Childhood in Pocatello for a year. The director had suggested Amber take classes through the ECCE program at ISU to obtain her Intermediate Technical Certificate in Early Childhood Education, in order to fulfill the necessary qualifications for her position as a teaching assistant.

Sims was hesitant at first. She was already working full time as well as being a mom to 3 boys, ages 9, 5 and 3, her oldest having been diagnosed with high functioning autism, ADHD, and ODD, and her 5-year-old having a severe phonological delay. After speaking with Carol Grimes and Amy Koplin, instructors and co-coordinators of the ISU ECCE program, she decided to give it a shot.

In the ECCE program, students learn techniques to enhance the development, social, and physical needs of young children in a hands-on practical environment. Students learn how to provide a safe and comfortable environment where young children can learn early academic, social, motor, and adaptive skills.

A hands-on activity Sims recalled as one of her favorite memories from the program was when they set up tables with open-ended art activities for children at the Kind Community Event in Pocatello.

“I was able to work with children in a different setting, talk with them, and practice my interaction and relationship building skills with them while we made different art pieces. I enjoyed hearing about their art and what they were making and why. Each child and piece of art was so different and unique that it made me appreciate what we do with children and why open-ended art is so vital for them,” said Sims.

Grimes and Koplin serve as mentors for the students in the ECCE program. Students are able to share experiences from their real-life jobs in early child education facilities and work through ways to best handle different situations. Sims ran into some difficulties as a teaching assistant.

“Carol and Amy provided me with guidance, support, encouragement and a place to feel valued when I felt defeated. Because of their actions throughout the year, I never gave up and used the year as a learning experience,” said Sims.

Sims was able to break down the obstacles that she faced to successfully complete the ECCE program. “Despite everything and all the hardships I had at work, I was able to graduate Summa Cum Laude with a 4.0 GPA. For me, that was a great accomplishment.” Sims has now officially moved into the role of a lead teaching position. She is extremely thankful for the support she received while in the program.

“Because of my time in the program and the skills I built, both personal and child-care related, I was able to secure my first lead teaching position and move out of the teaching assistant role. I think that without this program I never would have realized my potential or my passion for working with young children and their families and would have never gotten this amazing opportunity to make a difference in young lives,” Sims said.

In the fall of 2019 Sims was one of several students to receive the ISU College of Technology Distinguished Student Award and maintained a 4.0 GPA during her entire time in the ECCE program. Now, Sims is working towards her Bachelors of Applied Science degree with classes focusing in communication disorders.

Sims says, “This degree will also touch on social work, psychology of young children, and sociology of families and communities. I decided on this degree because I felt that adding a new skill set in communication disorders would give me an advantage in working with young children with speech delays or hearing impairments so that I can assist, guide and give them more meaningful experiences in the classroom that supports their abilities and learning.”
The College of Technology’s Energy Systems Technology & Education Center (ESTEC) knew that their traditional summer science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) camp was going to look a little different this year. Originally created to be an in-person event, the COVID pandemic created an unexpected challenge for everyone involved.

“We discussed cancelling the summer camp since most people were doing that with their events, but decided we wanted to continue to provide this learning opportunity to as many students as possible,” said Ryan Pitcher, Associate Director and Clinical Instructor for ESTEC. “To comply with CDC recommendations, the camp was moved to an online format and provided a unique opportunity to engage with a wider variety of students that we have in the past.”

The online STEM camp offered students entering 5th – 12th grade, fourteen different STEM-related learning opportunities. Each individual STEM-related camp is called a camp course. During the registration process, students choose as many camp courses as they would like to participate in and then would receive a STEM kit through the mail for each course.

This year 162 camp course seats were filled by students, with 81 of the seats being uniquely individual. The online offering of the summer camp allowed students from outside the Pocatello, ID area to participate. Students from Boise, Twin Falls, New Jersey, Texas, and California were able to engage in STEM learning regardless of their location and offered ESTEC the opportunity to engage with a more geographically diverse student population.

Moving the summer STEM camp online would not have been possible without the financial contributions from donors like Idaho National Laboratory, Idaho STEM Action Center, United Way of Southeast Idaho, as well as private donors. In June, Bayer Soda Spring Finance Lead, Shannon Torgeson, presented a $10,000 grant on behalf of the Bayer Corporation Fund to complete the financial support ESTEC needed to fund the online STEM camp.

“With so many activities and events being canceled due to COVID-19, we are excited to still be able to offer support to the ISU Online STEM Summer Camp this year. Bayer’s support is helping us continue to provide an engaging STEM learning opportunity for 5th-12th grade students and K-12 educators in addition to increasing the awareness and importance of STEM education,” said Katie Leishman, POWER Careers Advocate and STEM Camp Coordinator at the College of Technology.

“Throughout the years, the grants given through Bayer Fund have helped strengthen our communities across the United States,” said Al Mitchell, President of Bayer Fund. “We’re proud to be able to provide support to develop programs that help combat challenges in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) education.”

The online STEM camp also offered learning opportunities and activities for K-12 teachers and community educators in addition to professional development credits through the College of Education. Technical instructors were partnered together with K-12 teachers and community educators to prepare for the camp and deliver online instruction and support. Technical instructors work with K-12 teachers and community educators to go over concepts covered in their camp course as part of the teach-the-teacher activities. In turn, the K-12 teachers provide feedback and suggestions regarding the age group, knowledge level, and ability of students. This allows K-12 teachers and technical instructors an opportunity to collaborate, share expertise, and create effective STEM learning experiences for participating students.
Dean’s Medallion Award

Kirk Kirkham

Dale Bruce Kirkham, Jr., commonly known as Kirk, is a native of Pocatello, Idaho. He began his affiliation with Idaho State University at the ripe old age of six years old when his mother enrolled him in the newly created ISU Campus School for elementary age children in 1959. For the following six years he learned from its faculty and their elementary education degree seeking students.

Throughout Kirkham’s adult life, he has enjoyed a rich and fulfilling association with the College of Technology’s diesel program by providing hands on heavy equipment for students to learn to repair and giving opportunities for internships at his heavy equipment branch of his business.

Additionally, he served as an ecclesiastical leader for eleven years on campus helping students make ethical decisions as well as volunteered on advisory boards, and most recently as the College of Technology’s advisory board chairman.

As an advocate for ISU, Kirkham encouraged his children to attend the university. They excelled in academics and extracurricular activites which where his children earned advanced degrees. They served on an advisory board, selected as homecoming queen, elected as ISU’s student body president, and won the national mascot championship competition as Benny the Bengal.

In an effort to assist others to succeed at ISU, Kirkham recently founded the Kirk and Jill Kirkham Dare Greatly Scholarship Award.

Professional Achievement Award

Jim Stalnaker

Jim has had a long and distinguished career in the diesel technology and power generation industry since his graduation in 1989 from the College of Technology’s Diesel Technology program. Upon graduation, Jim’s career began in power generation in Portland, Oregon as a Power Generation Field Service Technician with EC Company. A few years later Jim went to work for Cummins Northwest as a Power Generation Field Service Technician where Jim was responsible for the service, repair and startup applications of power generation equipment. Two years after being hired by Cummins Northwest, Jim was promoted to Power Generation Service Manager over the Portland, Oregon area and spent four years in the role. In 1997, Jim moved to Cummins main offices in Portland as the Power Generation Sales Manager where he spent 19 years. In 2016 Jim was promoted to General Manager of Power Generation for the Pacific Region. In total Jim has spent 22 years with Cummins Inc.

Outstanding Community Partner Award

Levi May

Levi May was born in the Burley, ID area. From that time on he has always loved being outside and getting dirty. His work ethic started developing as he helped on his family’s farm. The older he got the more responsibility he had and no one went home until the job was done. Over the course of his life, he has had a variety of jobs, but they always came back to agriculture.

In 2013, May began working as a service manager for Stotz Equipment in Preston, ID. There he focused on doing the right thing for the customer and never compromising his integrity. Taking care of the customer and being fair has been a high priority regardless of his position.

May has progressed inside of Stotz Equipment and is now the Store Manager of their American Falls location. This allowed him to cultivate relationships with customers and community members which has provided opportunities for him to support worthwhile causes.

Whether it is planting beets, changing the oil in his daughter’s car, or calling back a customer May always gives it his best effort.

Outstanding Student Award

Charles Kibbie

Charles was an outstanding student throughout his time at ISU. His academic performance won him a spot on the Dean’s List, and allowed him to graduate with his Associates Degree at the top of his class. His knowledge extended beyond himself as he helped fellow classmates achieve academic success as well. Charles was able to obtain an internship at Schweitzer Engineering Labs during his summer breaks while attending ISU. Charles has served well as the Robotics Club President for three semesters. During his presidency, he helped run the Vex Competition, helped earn sponsorship for the state Vex Competition, and oversaw the raising of over $1,000 during the Applebee’s fundraiser.
staff excellence award

korey mereness

in the three years, korey mereness has been employed as the director of adult education, he has initiated unprecedented growth due to his ability to pinpoint opportunities and make important connections. mereness identifies and connects with key personnel within idaho state university and the community who share his passion for education of at-risk populations.

mereness is the kind of manager who forms partnerships by physically going into rural communities and setting up face-to-face meetings. through those alliances he has been able to move outreach centers in blackfoot and american falls from unattractive, low visibility sites to new, professional and welcoming spaces that attract and engage community members.

he has made connections in rural libraries and now offers ged online through their computer systems as well as online tutoring. mereness has built close working relationships with the center for new directions, start and the resource center on campus and recognizes that all play an important role in assisting students entering the college of technology.

mereness is also extremely focused on the success of his team. he continually researches and provides training in best practices for adult education. he cares deeply about his employees and is often seeking opportunities to best assist them in reaching their potential.

mereness currently serves as the co-chair of business and support services.

angela boursaw

angela boursaw’s presence as the first point of contact in the center for new directions (cnd) and start office is always friendly and professional. she goes out of her way to assist students and community members, often walking with them to the place they need to be. on occasion, boursaw is the first point of contact in the cnd office for a student who may be in crisis. she utilizes the most peaceful, calming demeanor to triage the situation and find the best help for the student.

boursaw juggles the scheduling for three counselors and provides quality administrative support to both cnd and start. she maintains strict confidentiality in all of her communication and sets high standards for herself in the office. she shows up ready to work every day regardless of what is going on in her personal life. she is flexible, looks for opportunities to help, eagerly takes on new projects, and completes her work regardless of numerous daily interruptions.

boursaw patiently and professional mentors work study students, lab attendants, and other staff members; coaching them on everything from university and department procedures. she is a crucial member of an event planning committee, which has significant impact on the stem community. boursaw’s contributions to the stem effort include extensive research and purchasing supplies to make the best use of limited grant money and university resources.

boursaw is a wonderful asset to the cnd and start programs and will continue to provide valuable support.
Ken Moore

Ken Moore is a great instructor and advocate for the College of Technology. He has shown tenacity and dedication when it comes to scheduling visits with various school districts and is always a willing participant at college career fairs. Moore has made a positive impression on high school administration and developed lasting relationships with multiple school districts.

Moore never says no to any opportunity to meet with a student. His passion for his program and enthusiasm for engaging with students is unparalleled. There have been several occasions when he has taken his personal time, come in during the weekends, or over the summer to meet with a prospective student or help a current student.

Moore’s positive nature became all the more apparent when he attended a college career fair earlier this year, that happened to be poorly attended. While other people would have complained about the wasted time, he was optimistic all day long. Of the three students he spoke with at the fair, one is now in the machining program. All because of that interaction he had with Moore.

Moore has so much value to his current, past, and future students’ lives. He still keeps in contact with the majority of his students and knows exactly what they are doing with their lives and where they are working. Moore touches people’s lives and directly impacts them for the better.

Wade Lowry

Wade Lowry joined Idaho State University’s College of Technology as a faculty member in the Health Information Technology (HIT) program in 2005. One of his most important contributions to the HIT program has been achieving the continuing accreditation status of the program for another ten years.

Without recruiting and continual addition of new clinical sites, the program would have been unable to grow beyond the confines of the local area. It is through Lowry’s efforts in these areas that three new clinical sites were recently recruited, developed, and utilized. In addition to these new sites two additional sites are under negotiations for the establishment of clinical affiliations.

Lowry routinely researches Health Information job opportunities throughout the state of Idaho and then passes on that information to the current and recent graduates of the program. He has been able to supply no less than 40 job leads to students who were entering the market over the last quarter. Efforts like his are the reason his program is listed as having a 96% positive placement rate.

Lowry creates positive teaching, learning and working environments for his students and colleagues. He has an excellent professional relationship with everyone in the department and continues to provide great opportunities for everyone involved.
Melisa Moon Retires from the College of Technology

After 24 years at Idaho State University (ISU), Melissa Moon has retired from her position as the Director of Development at the College of Technology (COT). Moon started with the college in 2010, and immediately went to work building relationships with donors and industry partners that have secured the future success of COT students and programs. Throughout her years, Moon worked feverishly to connect donors with COT programs, faculty, and students, taking the college’s donations from less than $100,000 in 2010 to over 2.5 million in 2019.

Moon was always looking at her work through the eyes of her donors, making sure she knew what was important to them and connecting that with the college’s endeavors. Her persistence and focus on helping donors be part of students’ successes built the foundation for numerous scholarships, endowments, and overall giving that have propelled COT to new heights.

Her passion for the College of Technology led to a seemingly unlikely relationship with long-time ISU supporters, William (Bill) and Karin Eames. The Eames’ were so impressed with the mission of COT and Moon, that they ultimately donated 5 million dollars to the college resulting in the William M. and Karin A. Eames Advanced Technical Education and Innovation Complex.

“Melisa’s dedication, persistence and skills have made a tremendous impact on College of Technology donations,” said Scott Rasmussen, Dean of the College of Technology. “In her few years with the College, she managed to raise over 10-fold more than what had been raised in the past. Her warm and fun personality touched the lives of so many donors who now have lasting relationships with the college. Melisa’s contributions to the financial success of the College of Technology will be felt for years to come! She is greatly missed.”

In addition to being one of ISU’s most successful development officers, Melissa also found time to coach the ISU Rodeo team, consistently winning the Rocky Mountain Region, and leading the Women’s team to a CNFR National Championship in 2013. Melissa also received the Rocky Mountain Region Coach of the Year award in 2017. The College of Technology will greatly miss her contagious laugh and warm smile. We wish her all the best in her new position as the Director of Advancement, Neurology and Neuroscience Initiative at the University of Utah.

Donations from January 2019–November 2020

Individual Donor Gifts

$500,000+
William M. and Karin A. Eames

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The College of Technology’s success is due to the generosity and dedication of our amazing donors, faculty, and staff. I am honored to have been able to work with all who have made the unparalleled opportunities possible for our students, ISU, and the State of Idaho.”

-Melissa Moon
Christopher and Kellyanne Duncan
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Travis Hanks and Brooks Bastian Hanks
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Western Aircraft
Western States

Every effort has been made to ensure that the donor list is complete and correct. We apologize in advance for any errors and would appreciate you bringing them to our attention by contacting Kellyanne Duncan, dunckell@isu.edu.

New Hires at the College of Technology

Adam Sorenson
Instructional Assistant, Robotics & Communications Systems Engineering Technology

Brittney Guinn
Instructor, Veteran to Nurse Program

Brody Holoayko
Instructor, Robotics & Communications Systems Engineering Technology

Brooke Hurt
Counselor, Successful Transition & Retention Track

Bryan Hale
Instruction Assistant, Unmanned Aerial Systems

Courtney Rhodes-Mason
Director of Marketing & Recruitment

Don Larson
Instructional Assistant, Auto Collision Repair & Refinishing

Eugene (Johnny) Demekhin
Program Coordinator, Respiratory Therapy

George Lake
Instructor, Energy Systems & Education Center

Henry Oh
Chair, Health Occupations

Judy Elquist
Instructor, Practical Nursing

Katie Leishman
Special Populations Coordinator, Center for New Directions

Lindsay Allen
Instructor, Business Technology

Mackenzie Gorham
Coordinator, Nuclear Operations Technology

Marcus Hernandez
Instructor, Welding Technology

Marcy Kestner
Administrative Assistant 2, Technical Department

Matt Reeseigh
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