
From: Office of the President <noreply@m.uidaho.edu>
Sent: Friday, August 29, 2025 6:31 AM
To:
Subject: U of I sets strong foundation for new era

Letter from the President



Office of the President, president@uidaho.edu
Aug. 29, 2025

Dear Vandals,

Campus is bustling and football is kicking off this weekend. The fall semester at the University of Idaho is underway. We're excited for the year as we celebrate our many milestones, and launch into a new era with the guidance of our fresh strategic plan.

Enrollment growth underlines much of our success at the U of I. Our 2025 numbers will not be finalized until October, but we're on track to post our ninth straight semester of enrollment growth and another enrollment record. Students continue to seek out the U of I because they get an outstanding education for an excellent price.

We continue to build financial strength. We distributed \$2.37 million through our Vandal Hybrid budget model to colleges and units this year. Those general education fund revenues will be strategically invested across the university to support classroom improvements, employee retention, technology upgrades and more.

Our alumni and supporters provide immense support for the U of I. Not only did we surpass our \$500 million campaign goal eight months early, but we also posted a record \$67.6 million in private support last year. The campaign continues through the end of the year with donor support pushing our total higher.

In February, the U of I joined the top tier of research universities in the nation as a Carnegie R1 institution. We're the first Idaho institution to join this prestigious group. We also set a new benchmark in 2024 with \$140 million in research expenditures.

We're national leaders in many research fields, including water, soil health, agriculture, forestry, fire and artificial intelligence. Our groundbreaking work with AI includes a \$4.5 million grant from the National Science Foundation to streamline administrative processes and drive efficiency in research management.

Throughout our 2026-2030 Strategic Plan, we're leveraging technology to boost student success and complement the efforts of our hard-working and talented employees.

Our strategic pillars are:

- Ignite student success
- Drive experiential learning
- Adapt the educational model
- Harness research innovation and partnerships
- Optimize operational excellence

The resulting pillar anagram cleverly spells IDAHO in support of our land-grant mission and the related work we have done for our state since our inception in 1889. We've already compiled

an impressive list of initiatives underway within each of our pillars. We're building on an outstanding foundation, and we remain committed to our mission of illuminating students and elevating our state.

We're investing in our strategic plan execution through internal grants to plant the seeds of innovation we will nurture into the future. And we've assigned a champion for each pillar to drive implementation, promotion and cross-unit collaboration.

Five years from now, the U of I will look much different thanks to investments in our campus infrastructure. We'll also function more efficiently and more effectively as we implement systems with the latest technology and free up time for our employees to engage deeper in work that matters for our state. We will ensure every student has an exceptional experience that prepares them for rewarding careers and fulfilling lives.

I am excited for what's next at the U of I as we combine our momentum with a carefully crafted plan. We look forward to sharing more about our plan at the State of the University address at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 2, in the Bruce M. Pitman Center International Ballroom. The program will also be streamed at [U of I Live](#). I hope you can find the time to join us to hear about this important new pathway for the U of I.

Go Vandals!

C. Scott Green
President



Snapshots

U of I research launched to International Space Station

U of I graduate student Adrienne Shea and Professor Matthew Bernards saw their research project launched to NASA's International Space Station. Their bacteria-resistant polymer coating for space vehicles is designed to protect astronauts from illness.

[Learn more.](#)

U of I responds to help feed local families

Food banks in northern Idaho are leaning on U of I Extension programs to help feed families facing food insecurity. The Sandpoint Agricultural Center is providing potatoes and other produce while extension offices in Clearwater, Latah and Idaho counties are teaming up with cattle producers to give beef to the Idaho Foodbank branch in Lewiston.

[Learn more.](#)

Deep Soil Ecotron provides unique testing grounds

U of I's Deep Soil Ecotron facility is now operational, providing scientists the ability to study soil at depths of up to 10 feet, the deepest of any facility in the world. The \$25 million facility will contain up to 24 ecotrons, which are large columns used to study soil cores.

[Learn more.](#)



The Vandal football team will face Washington State on Saturday in Pullman, the 94th meeting between the two neighboring schools. They first played in 1894 in Moscow.



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