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**From:** Office of the President <noreply@m.uidaho.edu>  
**Sent:** Friday, November 14, 2025 6:02 AM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** U of I earns more AI accolades

# Letter from the President



Office of the President, [president@uidaho.edu](mailto:president@uidaho.edu)  
**Nov. 14, 2025**

Dear Vandals,

This week the University of Idaho gained more national accolades for its use of artificial intelligence to streamline research operations. The latest recognition points to the U of I's hands-on approach to developing efficient and effective tools to tackle administrative tasks, freeing up employees to do the work only humans can.

Chris Nomura, vice president for research and economic development, accepted the Advances in Research Enterprise Operations Award at the Association of Public and Land Grant Universities meeting.

The award strongly affirms the U of I's early investments in AI and machine learning. We're deploying AI expertise across the university's research portfolio and improving university operations.

Recognizing the opportunities of generative AI and the pressures of increasing administrative demands, the Office of Research and Economic Development established a collaborative workflow. Developers work side-by-side with administrative professionals. This hands-on approach ensures they understand processes, data sources and deliverables before building AI-assisted tools tailored to each function. Continuous access to developers accelerates adoption, fosters user confidence and drives ongoing refinement.

The results have been transformative. In our Office of Research and Economic Development, the Vandalizer tool suite now automates labor-intensive tasks. Processes that once took 20 minutes to several hours now take seconds or a few minutes. Backlogs in the Office of Sponsored Programs have been eliminated, staffing pressures reduced and faculty satisfaction markedly improved.

The U of I's AI team shows remarkable agility in responding to urgent requirements. In one recent case, the university was tasked with reviewing more than 50,000 contracts. Initial estimates projected thousands of employee-hours or costly outsourcing. Instead, the team developed a generative AI solution that completed the review, extraction and database population, along with human quality checks, in just days, saving significant time and resources.

The U of I's innovation and hard work in AI led to a \$4.5 million National Science Foundation GRANTED award in collaboration with Southern Utah University. These research administration tools will be shared across higher education, expanding their impact far beyond Idaho.

Our new strategic plan weaves AI into each pillar. The U of I will lead the next decade of innovation by harnessing technology to improve teaching, research, outreach and operations.

U of I students can gain access to advanced AI tools through the new Google AI for Education Accelerator. The training modules and Google Career Certificates prepare our state's future workforce with the skills they need to excel in the jobs of tomorrow.

Through foresight, strategic execution and commitment to operational excellence, the U of I has fundamentally reshaped the research enterprise. Our dedicated team continues to innovate and find practical solutions to position us out front in the use of AI in higher education.

Go Vandals!

C. Scott Green  
President



## Snapshots

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## **Apimeds partners with U of I to advance biotech innovation**

The U of I College of Business and Economics is collaborating with Apimeds Pharmaceuticals on an initiative that connects student teams with business development projects. U of I students will work alongside Apimeds mentors to evaluate pharmaceutical assets, perform market and IP analysis and identify strategies to improve patient care.

[Learn more.](#)

## **Dual Credit Certificate opens doors for teachers, students**

The U of I's College of Education, Health and Human Sciences is increasing opportunities for students by offering the only Dual Credit Certificate program in Idaho. The program makes it easier for high school teachers without a graduate degree to earn certification to teach dual credit classes for the U of I.

[Learn more.](#)

## **U of I builds on strong foundation in Idaho Falls**

For more than 70 years, the U of I has offered excellent teaching and training in Idaho Falls through partnership with Idaho National Laboratory and sister institutions in the area. The campus adjacent to INL's facilities provides students the opportunity to work alongside researchers who are shaping the nation's energy future.

[Learn more.](#)



The Vandal men's basketball team will host the Holiday Hoops Classic in Boise Nov. 26-28. Games against CSU Northridge and Sam Houston State will be held at Idaho Central Arena.



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