

# MCCLURE CENTER JULY 2022 NEWSLETTER



University of Idaho

McClure Center for  
Public Policy Research

*Dear Friends of the  
McClure Center,*

Summer is a time of growth, and the McClure Center is marking the summer of 2022 with several wonderful changes. From increasing our student programs to expanding our physical space to adding McClure Center staff, the summer of 2022 is filled with the promise of another exciting and productive year.

The McClure Center's growth signals the lasting impact of Senator and Louise McClure's legacy of advancing collaborative and interdisciplinary approaches to address society's complex challenges.

## McClure Center Student Programs

At the McClure Center, we believe in the exchange of knowledge – our students teach us just as much as we teach them. It is a great honor to see them thrive, in Idaho and beyond. We are thrilled to watch them succeed and are delighted when their work reconnects them with the McClure Center.

### *Student Alumni*

This year, several student alumni made exciting career changes. **Kyle Pfannenstiel**, a 2019 JAMM-McClure Legislative Intern, joined the **University of Idaho Marketing and Communication** team as the external communications manager. In this position, Kyle is using the skills and connections he built while writing for the *Idaho Press*, *Post Register* and *Idaho Education News* to showcase the University of Idaho, its students, programs, research and impact.

We also were thrilled to see another JAMM-McClure Legislative Intern (2020), **Madison Hardy**, take the next step in her career by accepting the position of Governor Little's Press Secretary.



*Kyle Pfannenstiel*



*Madison Hardy*

## Future Leaders – TRIO- Upward Bound Intern

Earlier this spring, a 2018 Martin-McClure Ambassador, Estefania Cervantes, reached out to the McClure Center with an opportunity to host a high school student as part of the **TRIO-Upward Bound** summer internship program. The goal of this program is to provide interns with job shadowing and learning opportunities that will help inform their decisions about future careers.

Betzaida Gomez, an incoming senior at Nampa High School, joined the McClure Center this summer. During her five-week internship with the McClure Center, Betzaida participated in the creation of nonpartisan research reports, met collaborative governance practitioners from across the globe at the **University Network for Collaborative Governance** (UNCG) annual conference (described below), contributed to translating **Idaho Climate-Economy Impacts Assessment** content into Spanish and more. Betzaida's contributions bring fresh perspectives that have helped us consider our work in new and innovative ways.

## Martin-McClure Ambassadors

Martin-McClure Ambassadors spend their summer with the McClure Center exploring the intersection of international affairs and Idaho communities. The program is a partnership between the McClure Center and University of Idaho **Martin Institute** that started in 2014 and continues to grow each year.

This summer, we were joined by:

**Maya Birdsong:** Maya is from Boise, Idaho and is studying international studies and Spanish, with minors in political science and history. She recently returned from studying abroad in Santiago, Chile. Maya is building on the work of a previous Martin-McClure ambassador, Nicolas Schofield, to update *Idaho at a Glance: Refugees in Idaho*, published in 2016.



Maya Birdsong

## In her words

*They say that time flies when you're having fun or engaged in something you enjoy, and that's exactly how it's been interning at the McClure Center this summer. I was incredibly nervous after hearing that I would be the first TRIO-Upward Bound student to visit the McClure Center, but grateful nonetheless that they accepted the opportunity. They welcomed me into their workspace without hesitation.*

*In this environment, I get to grow into different interests for future careers. For example, when deciding what I want to be in the future, I never put politics or policy first...given the opportunity to intern here, I have developed an appreciation for the history of politics and how it relates to our world today and our community. I got to experience how problems affect different communities and how significant it is to highlight voices that are usually excluded.*

*Another profound experience was when I had the chance to view and comment on Spanish translations of the Idaho Climate-Economy Impacts Assessment snapshots. Through this, I grew to value the process and steps it takes to make sure each thing they publish is accessible to everyone, from different age groups to one's language barriers. When they asked me if I could go over and give my input into the translations with the use of my skills, I was ecstatic.*

*After being afraid that I wouldn't be able to help because of my previous experiences, I was overjoyed that I was able to help in the end. It's critical that everyone contributes their own ideas, with their own experiences and skills, to provide better solutions to reach the goal sufficiently, and that's what I feel like I've been getting to do here.*



Betzaida Gomez

**Yvette Bonney:** Yvette is a junior pursuing a double major in environmental science and international studies. She grew up in Moscow, Idaho and works as a laboratory technician for the University of Idaho Animal Veterinary and Food Sciences Lab and as a research assistant for the nonprofit TerraGraphics International Foundation. Her favorite pastimes are skiing, rafting and enjoying the outdoors in the Pacific Northwest. Yvette is working with the **Coeur d'Alene Tribe** Natural Resources Department staff, researching food security and sovereignty.



Yvette Bonney

**Molly Feeley:** Molly is a second-year student double majoring in international studies and sociology with minors in French and Africana Studies. She grew up in Boise, Idaho and loves to travel. Next spring, Molly plans to study in Morocco, where she hopes to learn Arabic. Molly enjoys exploring the outdoors and reading. She is spending the summer researching climate change mitigation policy with **The Nature Conservancy in Idaho**.



Molly Feeley

## Broadening our Reach

### McClure Center Moves

In June, the McClure Center relocated to the old Ada County Courthouse, also called the Capitol Annex, at 514 W. Jefferson Street. While the previous location in the historic GAR Building served us well, with the expansion of staff and students, we outgrew our space. Our new office, just a few blocks from the GAR Building, is on the east side of the State Capitol.

We are excited to share our beautiful new space with you! Be on the lookout for invitations to upcoming open houses to celebrate this growth and showcase the James A. and Louise McClure Gallery.



Capitol Annex: Old Ada County Courthouse

## University Network for Collaborative Governance (UNCG) Annual Conference

A growing facet of the McClure Center's expertise involves collaborative governance. **Collaborative governance can be described as** "the process and structures of public policy decision making and management that engage people constructively across the boundaries of public agencies, levels of government, and/or the public, private and civic spheres in order to carry out a public purpose that could not otherwise be accomplished."



UNCG annual conference



*Idaho Speaker of the House Scott Bedke delivers the UNCG annual conference keynote*

The McClure Center was honored to host the **UNCG** annual conference in Boise last month. The **conference** drew educators and practitioners of collaborative governance from all over the United States, Canada and Finland to the Idaho Water Center.

We had the opportunity to showcase great examples of collaboration in Idaho, including a keynote address by the Idaho Speaker of the House Scott Bedke and current research from colleagues at Idaho State University.

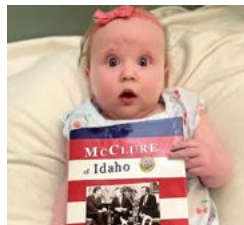
## New Colleagues

We are pleased to announce that Megan Foster, Ph.D. concluded her postdoctoral fellowship with the McClure Center this spring. She will remain a vital part of the McClure Center as our first program director | research scientist.



*Megan Foster, Ph.D.*

The McClure Center also welcomed a new mini-member, Emilia Pilgrim. Emilia already is getting caught up on McClure history and is ready to start joining Megan's meetings soon.



*Emilia Pilgrim*

The McClure Center is hiring an economist! Please share this **exciting opportunity** with your networks.

## In the Media

We are pleased to feature our latest press on the McClure Center's **In the Media** webpage, which features a collection of interviews and stories of the McClure Center's work published in local, regional and national outlets.

*Idaho Policy Fellow is a Fan of Foxes, Wolves and Bioinformatics* (2 June 2022). Engineers and Scientists Acting Locally features former Idaho Science and Technology Policy Fellow Sarah Hendricks, Ph.D. for their "Stories from the Field" blog.

[Read now>>](#)

*Sustainable Idaho: The Idaho Climate-Economy Impacts Assessment* (22 Feb. 2022) Megan Foster, Ph.D. and Katherine Himes, Ph.D. join Sustainable Idaho and discuss the Idaho Climate-Economy Impacts Assessment.

[Listen now>>](#)

*'Really Tight Water Year': Drought, Low Snowpack may Foretell Idaho's Climate Future* (21 Feb. 2022) Economic impacts of drought and climate change are detailed by experts in the Idaho Climate-Economy Impacts Assessment.

[Read more>>](#)

To get the latest news, we encourage you to follow us on [@UIMcClure](#) and [@Science Idaho](#).

## Stay Connected

This new growth is built upon the investments of many years and supporters. We encourage you to **stay connected**, so you can join us as we continue to grow. We look forward to connecting with you at upcoming events. As well, please look for several publications scheduled for this fall.

Warmest wishes,

*Katherine Himes, Ph.D.*  
Director, James A. and Louise McClure Center for Public Policy Research

Based in Boise, the **University of Idaho's James A. and Louise McClure Center for Public Policy Research** conducts nonpartisan public policy research, informs public dialogue and policy and engages students in learning about public policymaking. The Center's approach to addressing society's complex issues sustains Senator and Louise McClure's legacy of thoughtfully pursuing bipartisan collaboration and sound public policy.