



# CAPITOL REVIEW

## A WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE REPORT

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### U OF I PRESIDENTIAL FINALISTS NAMED

The University of Idaho President Search Committee has announced the top five candidates for the U of I president position. The five finalist candidates will visit Moscow and Boise March 4-8 and include:

**Christopher Callahan** - Dean, Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communications and Vice Provost, Arizona State University, as well as Chief Executive Officer, Arizona PBS

**Diane Chase** - Executive Vice President and Provost, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

**Scott Green** - Global Chief Operating and Financial Officer, Hogan Lovells

**Elizabeth Spiller** - Dean, College of Letters and Science, University of California, Davis

**Paul Tikalsky** - Dean, College of Engineering, Architecture and Technology, Oklahoma State University

Visit the presidential search website for more information on each finalist. Each finalist will meet with students, faculty, staff and community leaders.

### SJM103 EMPHASIZES FREE TRADE

SJM103, a memorial between the Idaho Senate and House urges Congress to ratify the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) as soon as possible. Canada and the United States have long shared one of the largest trading relationships. Canada is the United States' largest export market, which is valued at \$320 billion in goods and services. 26% of Idaho's agricultural products are exported to Canada, and that is the largest export market for agriculture in Idaho. SJM103 also encourages President Trump's administration to renew its original waiver on steel and aluminum tariffs for Canada and Mexico. SJM103 calls on Mexico and Canada to remove retaliatory tariffs on all United States goods and services. Both countries placed tariffs on US goods during 2018 when the president placed tariffs on a number of goods being imported.

### NEGOTIATION PERIOD

H121 creates a time period for potato processing producer associations and potato processors to negotiate, in good faith, an agreement for the purchase and sale of raw potatoes for processing. If a potato processor and a potato processing producer association fail to reach an agreement within the specified time period, then members of a potato processing producer association may negotiate individually with potato processors. Pre-season negotiations between potato processors and potato grower associations have taken place in Idaho since 1964. This negotiation period has allowed process potato growers to secure contracts in order to obtain financing and make production plans. H121 does not mandate that the potato processing producer association and the potato processor reach a contract. If the two parties do not reach a decision, then the processor is free to deal with individual growers. H121 also defines the target market as the frozen potato processing area. The legislation provides a forum for processors and growers to discuss critical issues such as sustainability, food safety, farm labor, environmental aspects and a wide range of topics relevant to the overall well-being of growers and the processing industry within Idaho. H121 passed through the House Agricultural Affairs Committee on Tuesday. Critics of H121 cited that the legislation did not maintain any enforcement mechanism.

### AG ECONOMICS DEPARTMENT HEAD NAMED

The U of I College of Agriculture & Life Sciences Dean Michael Parrella announced the appointment of Chris McIntosh as the new department head for Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology (AERS). McIntosh has served in the role on an interim basis since the fall of 2017. Parrella said, "Thanks to his long history with the University of Idaho, Chris has a deep understanding and appreciation of U of I and CALS". Parrella continued, "Chris is dedicated to our students, growing enrollment and retention at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. In addition, his many years leading the AGECE 410 course has cemented his good standing among CALS' agricultural stakeholders across the state."

## LIA WEEK IN BOISE

Leadership Idaho Agriculture was developed in 1985 and 988 members have graduated from the program since its inception. On Friday, the thirty members of Class 39 graduated completing seventeen days of training over four months. The graduates are from a variety of backgrounds and locations throughout the state of Idaho:

**Bob Carter** - Boise - Project Manager, Boise Project - Board of Control

**Audra Cochran** - Moscow - Assistant Director, Recruitment, U of I CALS

**Trisha Cracroft** - Boise - State Biologist, USDA-NRCS

**Nikki Dalton** - Pocatello - Assistant Professor/ Extension Educator, U of I CALS

**Tobin Dixon** - Star - Western Idaho Area Director  
USDA-Rural Development

**Kasia Duellman** - Idaho Falls - Assistant Professor, U of I CALS

**Bryce Durrant** - Meridian - Production Ag

**Jared Everson** - Grangeville - Soil Conservationist  
USDA-NRCS

**Brody Fitch** - Pocatello - CPA, Cooper Norman

**Jenny Ford** - Moscow - Executive Director, Moscow Chamber of Commerce

**Jacob Gisler** - Genesee - Seed Division Manager,  
PNW Farmers Cooperative

**Cody Hendrix** - Idaho Falls - Relationship Manager,  
Northwest Farm Credit Services

**Tim Hesby** - Gooding - Site Director, Glanbia  
Nutritionals

**Luis Hurtado** - Rupert - Production Ag

**Brooke Jacobson** - Boise - Agriculture Prgm Mgr. -  
Range Mgmt., Idaho State Dept. of Agriculture

**Jarom Jemmett** - Parma - Production Ag

**Dain Johnson** - Caldwell - Production Ag

**Adrienne Lipka** - Pocatello - Rangeland Management  
Specialist, Bureau of Land Management

**Maggie Malson** - Parma - Production Ag

**Louis Martinez** - Boise - Supervisory Contact  
Representative, Bureau of Land Management

**Dennis Merrick** - Nampa - Agricultural Representative,  
Idaho Power

**Katie Mosman** - Grangeville - Ag Science and  
Technology Instructor, Grangeville High School

**Michael Ottley** - Burley - Noxious Weed & Invasive  
Species Supt.

**Stephen Parrott** - Nampa - Relationship Manager,  
Northwest Farm Credit Services

**Craig Phillips** - Menan - Production Ag

**Cole Riggers** - Craigmont - Production Ag

**Avery Robertson** - Blackfoot - Loan Officer, Idaho  
AgCredit

**Ben Schumacher** - Nezperce - Agronomy Sales  
Representative, Seeds, Inc.

**Aria Spear** - Burley - Homemaker

**Nic Wittman** - Paul - Facility Material Manager,  
Amalgamated Sugar Co. LLC

Applications are now being accepted for Class 40 and are due by August 1, 2019.

## LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL AUDITS

Currently, there are audit requirements for all local governmental entities with some exceptions. These requirements are adhered to by all cities, counties, authorities and districts organized as separate legal and reporting entities under Idaho law. Some examples of separate legal entities are councils, commissions, districts and boards that are appointed or elected and tasked with fiscal management responsibilities of the local governmental entity. One of the exceptions is for governing bodies whose annual expenditures, from all its sources, do not exceed \$100,000 in a fiscal year. These entities are not required to participate in the same costly "yellow book" audit process but have the option of arranging a financial review. The benefit of a financial review administered by an authorized provider is that they are more readily performed and cost much less. H184 was introduced to increase the cap for local government entities from \$100,000 to \$150,000. With the large number of districts, boards and commissions represented by agriculture and natural resources in Idaho, it is important that burdens are lightened for those entities that cannot afford audits, which can represent 5%, 10% or even 15% of their fiscal-year budget.

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