

Agreement of Cooperation/Collaboration between Refugee Resettlement Agencies and Boise State University Fall 2019

Boise State University (BSU)* and leaders of the refugee resettlement community desire to further a mutually beneficial partnership.

Boise State, Jannus, and the International Rescue Committee (IRC) share common interests and a commitment to 1) assisting refugees rebuild their lives and become contributors to the greater community, 2) educating our students and our community toward these efforts, and 3) making the resources of Boise State fully accessible to refugees in Idaho.

Boise State, Jannus, and the IRC agree that cooperative activities under this MOA may consist of (but are not limited to) the following:

1. **Expand programs and support services for prospective and current college students who identify themselves with a refugee past or refugee family background.** Set metrics for increased recruitment, retention, and graduation rates of these students, and advocate for resources to attain these metrics.
2. **Expand service-learning, work-study, and internship opportunities** for Boise State students to work with refugee populations.
3. **Continue to jointly sponsor an annual conference** on refugee issues that addresses the needs and interest of Boise State faculty and students, refugees, governmental agencies, school districts, health care organizations, social service agencies, employment programs, and others.
4. **Explore collaborative research projects** regarding refugee issues using mutually developed protocol for considering potential research studies; pursue grants that might be available for such research.
5. **Increase campus and public awareness** through publications, media, events and other joint activities about and with people who arrived as refugees.
6. **Support existing and potential certificate programs** and other academic offerings in refugee services and refugee studies.
7. **Cultivate a commitment from Boise State campus leaders** to support faculty access to local community resources that provide opportunities to infuse global perspectives in the classroom.
8. **Cultivate a commitment to inclusion among Boise State and community leaders**, with a particular focus on students with a refugee background.
9. **Advance the vision** that Jannus, the IRC, and Boise State together can become an important resource for addressing refugee resettlement successes, serving Idaho and beyond.
10. **Convene campus and community leaders** annually to set goals and metrics, and quarterly to pursue the above initiatives. This group will serve as the nexus for advancing research, seminars, symposia and other similar activities that explore issues surrounding refugee resettlement: acculturation, language acquisition, economic self-sufficiency, access to higher education, child and adult education, physical and mental health, and integration.

Boise State's Intermountain Bird Observatory Plans New Water Conservation Project

Oct. 27, 2020 – Boise State has announced a new clean water project along the Boise River at the Intermountain Bird Observatory's Diane Moore Nature Center, known as IBO on the River.

Construction will begin fall 2021 and is expected to last 4-6 months.

With engineering support and funding from locally-based tech leader Micron Technology, a new river side-channel will improve water quality, reduce water temperature, recharge groundwater, improve fish and wildlife habitat, and mitigate flooding.

"This incredible gift from Micron will create a lasting legacy for the Treasure Valley that will serve its residents for generations to come, and be the focus of IBO's education and outreach activities," said Gregory Kaltenecker, Diane and Winston Moore Family Endowed Director for IBO. "The site will become a place to enjoy, learn about, respect and cherish the Boise River."

The Boise State IBO on the River includes more than 20 acres of riparian and upland habitat adjacent to the Boise River near Highway 21 in east Boise. It provides safe, easy access to outdoor learning, with plans for future interpretive trails, boardwalks, wildlife viewing structures and educational signage.

"Micron is proud to partner with Boise State University on its water conservation project to improve wildlife and reduce shared community water challenges," said Linda Somerville, corporate vice president of technology development at Micron. "The project aligns with Micron's sustainability goals to conserve water through efficiency, reuse and restoration and reflects Micron's commitment to supporting our educational partners and STEM programs."

Micron has a long history of collaborating with Boise State University through funding from the Micron Foundation, supporting engineering education and expanding campus infrastructure. The new Micron Center for Materials Research building will provide science researchers and students materials and laboratory space to continue building expertise using nanomaterials on an industrial scale.

"The growth and unique trajectory of Boise State University is due, in part, to the generosity of Micron Technology," said Dr. Marlene Tromp, president. "Higher education is key to helping communities thrive, and Micron's support, particularly for our research endeavors, has helped position Boise State to lead in ways that positively impact our state, our region and beyond. We are truly grateful for this lasting partnership."

Private, corporate and municipal support for the IBO is providing much of the infrastructure development for the center. Longtime Boise developer Winston Moore is an IBO benefactor, and the

center was named last year after his late wife, Diane. The City of Boise provided a \$440,270 grant to build trails and boardwalks on the property. Fundraising for other infrastructure is ongoing.

“The generosity of gifts to Boise State from donors like Micron and the Winston Moore family help provide the needed funding for us to ensure we have educational programs and spaces that contribute toward the benefit of the entire community,” said Vice President for University Advancement Matthew Ewing.

For more information on the Intermountain Bird Observatory and the Diane Moore Nature Center, including ways to support its programming, visit: boisestate.edu/ibo/

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About Boise State University

A public metropolitan research university with more than 24,000 students, Boise State is proud to be powered by creativity and innovation. Located in Idaho’s capital city, the university has a growing research agenda and plays a crucial role in the region’s knowledge economy and famed quality of life. In the past 10 years, the university has quadrupled the number of doctoral degrees, doubled its masters degrees and now offers 13 online degree programs. Learn more at www.BoiseState.edu.