

Alumni Appreciation of Faculty at The College of Idaho
Responses to Query on Facebook

Lindsey Hunt '08

Dr. Sara Heggland pushed for excellence in all that I did as both a student in her classes and in research. At the time I was challenged by her high expectations, but each success gave me more confidence to try something more difficult. This has become a standard way I conduct myself professionally, and it has led me down some incredible paths. I am drawn to challenges and situations that are outside of my "expertise" because I know that's where real growth occurs. This was such an important lesson to learn from Dr. Heggland in college.

Dr. Jim Angresano's classes were so interesting. I was not a business major but economics fascinated me. He was willing to let me take one of his higher level classes even though it was not for my major/minor. Others may have wondered why I was in that classroom, but Dr. Angresano always treated me like I belonged there.

Dr. Scott Truksa made chemistry classes fun and rewarded those of us who weren't "born with" chemistry smarts by giving us credit for the hard work we put into the projects and labs. In the real world, the best employees and coworkers are not the ones who know everything. I appreciate the people who know how to work hard, are willing to listen and learn, and have the grit to keep going when things get tough. I appreciated his willingness to teach to all of us.

Dr. Dali Islam: I realized that not everyone gets an English professor who is willing to push students toward excellence. My writing has probably declined since college, but I appreciate her knowledge and skill. It is rare to find good writers out in the "real world."

Diana McIver '68

While majoring in Sociology at The College of Idaho (1965-68), I had many classes from Dr. Ralph Marshall, whom I respected as a Professor. I could, for some reason (mostly oversleeping), just not make it to a T/Th class of his; my attendance was atrocious. One day, after class, he gave me a pretty stern lecture about "showing up," emphasizing the importance of being on time and also being there at all! I'm not certain it really registered with me as a 20-year-old, but I did manage to make it to class from that point forward.

During my early professional years, I always had good work ethics, and I'm sure my bosses would agree. At the age of 32, I started my own business and have been a successful business owner ever since. And while I value employees who are smart, I value even more employees who have good work ethics, those who "show up." They show up by being here, they show up by participating, and they show up by contributing. And now, fifty years later, I continue to credit Dr. Marshall for instilling in me the value of good work ethics even though at the time I thought it just meant showing up to class!

Kathryn Kostow '78

Analyst and Conservation Biologist, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (retired)
Consultant, Coffee Creek Bioscience, Oregon City, OR

I graduated from C of I in 1978 with a degree in biology. I went on to get advanced science degrees. I am now retired, after working over 30 years in my field as a natural resource manager and conservation biologist. I have about a dozen influential publications in my field. I've lectured at local, national and international conferences. I've helped produce meaningful natural resource policies, and I've been an expert witness in federal natural resource legal cases. I will always remember my favorite lesson at The College of Idaho. It occurred in my sophomore zoology class. We were sent out to a pond to collect a bottle of water, given a binocular microscope, and told to study the stuff that was in there. We were not allowed any reference materials, no keys and no books (no internet had this been today). For five weeks we had to figure out how many kinds of them there were, sort the stuff into similar groups, describe their anatomy, estimate relative abundances, determine how they acquired energy, figure out how they moved, reproduced, interacted with others, and did whatever else it was they did. Then we had to communicate our findings by producing our own little illustrated book about it. In short, we were taught how to explore like a biologist.

Science is the exploration of things that are not known yet. It is not about memorization and regurgitation of the already known. It is about asking new questions, collecting new data and having the analytical, cognitive and intuitive skills to connect the dots and understand what's going on. It is about effectively communicating what is discovered. I was lucky to have had several unique professors at C of I who helped me develop some of those skills.

Don Nelson '67

I remember Robert Bratz, a biology professor; J.H. Roblyer, organic chemistry professor; and Lamar Bollinger, economics professor.

Dr. Bratz was probably one of the louisiest classroom instructors, especially at 7:45 am. However, once the man was in his element of the outdoors, he became a dynamo. In those days the biology department was often taken on short field trips, so I experienced him in his element quite often.

Dr. Roblyer was scary to the core, but when I graduated and found my first job I had occasion to pay him a visit at his home. I had a question on a chemical test I was using. He answered my immediate question in seconds and he suggested another reagent which might prove more satisfying. Six months later the authors of the process issued a wondrous innovation and guess what, it was exactly what Dr. Roblyer suggested.

Lamar Bollinger. I took his Intro to Econ at 1:30 in the afternoon. He was as boring as paint drying. I took only the one semester and vowed never to venture into econ again. Empty phrases often come back to haunt.

I found my first job was a dead-end job and I decided that I wanted to visit the world of business. Professor Bollinger taught an evening course in the town where I worked. I completed intro to econ in

night school. I found an entirely new man. I listened in fascination to his after-class discussion. He was fascinating applying economic principles to local history. I found as I pursued a new major in business that I took a number of his courses. His classroom was still not scintillating but I found new interest in hanging onto every word.

Lael Uberuaga '09

I only took one class from Denny Clark, but it blew apart everything I thought I knew about organized religion. So refreshing. I still think about that class all the time, and it has broadened my world view.

Kathy Seibold also broadened my horizons, and having learned the anthropological *approach*, I now view my entire world through an anthropologist's lens. This helps me understand my world better, get along with people better, and resolve conflict better. Culture is everything.

While I never took an actual class from Rochelle Johnson, she was one of the Heritage Scholar program advisors and her mentorship helped immensely.

Similarly, I never had Ron Bonneau as a class professor, but he was the head of the Outdoor Program when I was there. I was a student director for 2 of my 4 years at the college, and that was one of the biggest learning experiences during my whole time there. Managing a real budget, of real money, and making real decisions about trips/meals/education for fellow students really made me grow up. Ron was there with us every step of the way and while he made sure we stayed safe, he let us have enough freedom to make a few small mistakes and learn from them. (As we know, mistakes sometimes teach us more than successes do) You can tell Ron deeply cares about his athletes and students he works with, and he does a great job.

As an overall statement about the faculty, I want to thank them for teaching at the C of I. I get the sense that they are probably generally underpaid commensurate with their mastery of their fields.

The C of I is small (and that's what I loved about it) so the budget might not ever be there to pay them what they're worth, and I know that the really, really good ones are there because they love teaching (because if they were there for the money, they might not be there). They still choose, every year, to hang out with a bunch of teenagers in the little farm town of Caldwell, and I'm so glad they do. Professors make or break a college experience for the eager learner, and if done right, they will influence future careers, teach critical thinking/writing/research skills, and broaden the horizons of hundreds of lives. I suppose this is always what education does though. Thanks for being that force in the world, Yote faculty!

Jack Meek

I was fortunate to have spent a year on a study exchange programme at C of I in 2009/2010. I count my experiences in Idaho as amongst the happiest in my life, and C of I was in large part responsible.

Although I was majoring in business whilst at the college, I was studying law at Queen's University of Belfast in Northern Ireland (my home country). As a result, I took elective classes with Jasper LiCalzi (American Public Policy) and Kerry Hunter (Constitutional Law), both of whom I consider friends and

people with whom I am still in contact. Although he didn't teach me, I have also been fortunate to meet with Steve Maughan on an annual basis, when he makes his yearly trips to London, England, where I now live. It's always great to catch up and hear how well the College is doing.

Since studying at C of I, I have been called to the Bar of England and Wales and I am a fully licensed New York Attorney and Counsellor-at-law. I know that Jasper's and Kerry's teaching did me a world of good, as I applied their methods to my later legal studies (both academic and professional). They helped instill in me the importance of succinct, practical writing through their weekly essay assignments. I know that this proved to be of great benefit when writing essays for the New York Bar exam. I passed this on my first try, a rare feat for international students, and I have Jasper and Kerry to thank for helping me tailor my writing skills for an American audience. These practical writing skills have also been invaluable in relation to my current employment at Thomson Reuters.

As I told Kerry in 2014, when I paid a visit to the College for the first time since leaving, I still have a yellow legal pad with all of my notes from his constitutional law class; our detailed analysis of J.S. Mill proved very useful when I came to write my Master's dissertation on Hate Speech - indeed, it influenced my decision to focus on free expression - and I earned a distinction in Human Rights Law as a result. I also credit Kerry with helping to inform my views on free expression more generally. I am concerned at the efforts in public life to shut down legitimate debate, and the lessons I learned at C of I have encouraged me to challenge London Bar students, who I regularly coach in public speaking.

On a related note, although he is no longer at The College of Idaho, Mack Sermon was a mentor to me as debating and public speaking coach. I hope he knows how much his friendship and tutelage have meant. My best wishes to all of the Howlin' Yotes Speech & Debate team, both coaches and students - we need people who can argue effectively, especially in our current testing times on both sides of the pond.

Best wishes to Arnold Hernandez, who was so generous to me and who is brilliant with all of the international students. Please also let Orrie Rodriguez and the admissions team know that I am thinking of them; they do a great job in selling the college. Orrie was one of my closest friends during my time at C of I; we lived in Voorhees Hall together (in fact, he was our head RA) and he and his wife Katee are amongst the nicest people I know.

My thoughts are often with C of I and I count myself incredibly lucky to be part of the Yote Family.

Katie Anderson '07

I think Dali Islam flipped my life on its head. I had a pretty limited exposure to the world outside of my tiny hometown experience. Her classes opened my eyes to so many cultural concepts. She bred in me an eye and a compassion for "otherness." She taught me to be critical of my own narrow experience. I now teach English at an International Spanish Academy in Layton, Utah. At least a third of our faculty is from Spain. At least a third of our faculty is LDS (funny enough, I am neither). It's a cultural oasis and a family, and we teach and navigate the nuances of culture every day. We send 40-50 9th graders to Spain for two weeks each year. I kind of felt like teaching junior high was so small after I'd studied with Dr. Islam, but I am honored to be opening a world of culture to the next generation of small, homogenous town-kids like me.

Deb Yates, Patti Cople, and Don Burwell prepared me to be a teacher. I had no grasp on how little other universities expected of their education students until I received feedback in my first years of teaching and have since worked with several student teachers. Six weeks in the classroom during the hours that are convenient for you is considered an internship? I was doing that during my sophomore year winter experience! I never thought I'd appreciate The History of Educational Reform, but it zooms the camera lens out for me on what it means to be an educator in our country and I've been pondering it a lot lately. I got my job because I went to The College of Idaho and they were so impressed with Desiree Smoot that they were begging for more teachers from our college. That should have been an indicator to me of how lucky I was to be involved with this department.

Eddie Walsh '13

I remember my first week of classes at The College of Idaho quite clearly and I can confidently say that one moment in Dr. Mee-Ae Kim's World Civilization course profoundly changed the trajectory of my life. She said it so simply, and I can remember I was not the only student to be taken by surprise: Race does not exist. Race has no basis in science. This idea of race is purely a social construct.

Growing up in Ammon, Idaho, I had never considered the concept of race. I understood people as they had been presented to me. Stereotypes in media and religious conservatism had provided me an extremely biased understanding of people I had never met. The history I knew from high school began with European expansion and ended with the United States as the greatest country on Earth. Generations of people from South America, Africa, and Asia were not worth mentioning by Idaho state history standards. The world the History Department would show had colors and a vastness I never could have imagined.

It may sound extremely ignorant for a white male to take this moment and say, "Dr. Kim made me not racist" ... but, wasn't I pretty ignorant? Would I have continued to live my life as a complicit person of privilege? Would I have sought out opportunities to interact more with people of color? Would I have moved to Mississippi to become a teacher? Would I have found myself working in East LA as children lived in fear of being torn from their families? Would I have witnessed the inequalities facing students in Hollywood? Would I have taken my experiences back to Ammon, Idaho to enlighten students growing up in the same community I came from?

Dr. Kim and the entire History Department changed who I was. I did not just learn about history. I learned about people. I saw inequality. I witnessed harm.

I also saw power.

I saw the opportunity to implement restorative justice practices in my classroom. I saw the chance to demonstrate to young people the morals I found in history. I found a place to teach the depth of humanity when I had experienced the shallows.

I see my career in education as being intrinsic to my mission of social justice. I have this mission because of the faculty of The College of Idaho. We have more love and compassion in the world because of our faculty.

Nikki Abercrombie '11

The faculty at C of I have made an incredible lasting impact on my life! Here are a few of my favorites:

Steve Maughan - Steve knew I was interested in history and reached out to me fall of my freshman year to see if I would assist him in his research. This was before I'd ever even had him as a professor--we'd only met during the Kathryn Albertson Scholarship Day interview. His confidence in me and encouragement of my passion for history before I'd even taken a class from him really fueled my desire to study history and work hard in and out of the classroom. Beyond that, Steve was and is a very close mentor of mine and someone I consider to be one of the most important people in shaping me as an adult. While I ultimately went into law rather than history, the research skills I learned from Steve have been invaluable in my career. I went into law school feeling incredibly prepared to research and analyze case law. I also went on the London trip with Steve and that was truly a life-changing experience. It taught me so much about how to travel mindfully and meaningfully. I've taken many trips domestic and abroad since, but the London trip has taught me to do my homework ahead of time and familiarize myself with the history of where I'm going. I feel like this is one of the most valuable lifelong skills I got from C of I.

Jeff Snyder-Reinke - Like Steve, Jeff also reached out to me prior to my ever taking a class from him. Jeff let me stay in his upper division History of Southeast Asia class even though I was a freshman. He warned me it was a lot of work and would be difficult, but his confidence in me to let me take that on anyway gave me the drive to read every assigned page and prepare thoroughly for every class. To this day, it is still one of my favorite courses I ever took. Jeff mentored me a lot outside the classroom too as I tried to decide whether I wanted to pursue a PhD or a JD. He also makes super delicious tea!

Mee-Ae Kim - I barely ever even took a class (1 class + senior seminar) from Mee-Ae, and to this day she is still one of my fondest professorial memories from the College. She takes an active interest in the lives of her students, in and outside the classroom, and really became a fabulous mentor for me when I worked on my thesis and for the Phi Alpha Theta history conference. She is both kind and approachable, while still holding students to a very high standard and not being lax on her grading or critique of their work. Her sense of humor and laid back nature make her so easy to talk to and she made a truly lasting impact on me as I tried to figure out what I wanted my next step after college to be.

Dori Johnson - I had Dori for reformation, ancient Greece, ancient Rome, and jewelry making. Her enthusiasm for her subject matter is unparalleled and it's contagious. While numismatics remains one of my least favorite endeavors I've ever undertaken, the fact that Dori was so excited about every facet of Ancient Rome made that course really stick with me. Outside the classroom, she's easy to talk to, approachable, and always willing to listen. She brings a unique edge to the history department by also teaching some art classes and I found her encouragement of my creativity both artistically and historically helped me find my voice. Plus, she ALWAYS has a smile. And some days you don't want to talk for hours about grad school--you just need a friendly smile. Dori always gave me that.

Rochelle Johnson - Rochelle was my advisor for the Heritage Scholar program. I never took a course from her, but always found her one of the most intelligent and approachable faculty members I ever had the pleasure to interact with. Even though many Heritage Scholars are outside her subject matter, she was always encouraging of whatever path we chose and was accessible and willing to answer any question I might have. Her Heritage Scholar holiday party was one of my favorite events. Rochelle is the

type of mentor who checks in on you from time to time instead of waiting for you to seek them out. Sometimes that is what I really needed and I appreciated being able to chat with someone who didn't necessarily see me in the classroom setting, but still took an active interest in me.

Garth Claassen - Garth gave me my favorite college-learned skill that I use on a daily basis - a hobby! I had never done art until I was required to sketch as a large portion of the London trip assignment. I'd never sketched before and had zero interest in starting, but it was an assignment. I quickly fell in love with sketching and still carry sketchbooks with me in my purse. I always buy a new one for each trip I take. I like chronicling my life with annotated sketches and appreciate this unique habit that Garth taught me initially. After finding out I really did enjoy doing art, I took a painting course from Garth spring of my senior year. I was nervous and didn't think I was very good, but Garth saw my potential and encouraged me to explore and really embrace my own unique style. One of my few regrets from C of I was that I didn't start taking art courses sooner. That class was extremely life-changing for me, and to this day I have an easel always set up in my house and I paint with oil stick and acrylic as a form of stress relief. Painting is such an important hobby to me and I am so grateful that Garth's encouragement of me pushed me to make it that way.

Sue Schaper - Like Steve and Garth, I really got to know Sue through the London trip. She is one of the most interesting and wonderful people I've ever had the pleasure to know! Her love of British literature, particularly in London, translated into walks and exploration of London neighborhoods I would never have gone to on my own as a tourist. Like Garth and Steve, she helped me become a more intentional traveler, open to new experiences and mindful of my travel companions. I subsequently took a British lit course from her, which was incredibly challenging. One thing I will always appreciate about Sue was that she is willing to challenge students. She is likely one of the harshest critics (in a good way!) I've ever had and holds students to a very high standard. I think she may honestly be the most "difficult" professor I ever took a class from. But it was this level of expectation that enhanced my abilities as a writer and deepened my analytical abilities. Sue doesn't let you just recite the basic themes and motifs on the *Middlemarch* Wikipedia page. She expects you to really, thoughtfully, and meaningfully dive into literature from numerous angles of analysis. Sue made me a better and more capable thinker!

Rob Dayley - I was not a POE major or minor, but ended up taking a handful of courses from Rob. Model UN and a few independent study Thai language courses in preparation for our trip to Thailand for the *Tangerine Dreams*. Rob is a fantastic professor, infectiously passionate about the subject matter he teaches and having traveled with him to New York and Thailand, I can vouch that he is an excellent trip leader. So many of the experiences I had in Thailand -- planting rice in a rice paddy, climbing through caves in Chiang Dao, nearly running out of gas in the rain storm on a mountain somewhere in Northern Thailand, sleeping on the concrete floor of a hut with local Paulang villagers and making jasmine rosaries, hiring a local boat to take us across the Mekong into Laos, visiting an opium museum, planting trees in possibly a monsoon with monks, taking a boat to a random island south of Pattaya to visit a Chinese Buddhist temple, and cycling through Sukhothai to watch a sunrise are some of the most amazing, once-in-a-lifetime experiences that a) I probably wouldn't have done without Rob leading the charge and b) don't know if I'd have the knowledge/adventurous spirit to recreate now. I'm sad I didn't get to know Rob more until the summer AFTER I graduated, but that month we spent in Thailand was one of the most life-changing experiences of my life and it was 100% because Rob gave me the opportunity to be on the *Tangerine Dreams* team.

Chris Henderson '01
Controller – Human Resources
Gold's Gym - Meridian

I graduated in 2001 with a degree in Political Science.

The first, and maybe most important lesson, I learned was from Jasper LiCalzi. I don't remember the class, but we were required to bring a 1-page paper to each class about our readings for that session. I was getting low marks and prepared to voice my frustration, but not before I made the decision to quit reading before I would write my 1 page paper. I told Professor LiCalzi that my grades started to go up when I quit reading and simply took a random paragraph and wrote something based on it. He informed me of a pretty strong life lesson in that moment. He said, "I can't grade on effort as I only see the final product."

In many areas of my life, personally and professionally, the final product is what is recognized and valued based on perception, not the amount of work that I had to put in on the value addition to that work.

Kerry Hunter helped me understand how to interpret an argument without emotion and see multiple sides of an argument. This has become especially important as the American political climate becomes, in his words, pretty mucked up. In my work life it helped me navigate personal training client's perceptions about the fitness world, tax preparation clients about perceptions regarding tax law, and now I have to hear people out daily. This skill helps me in determining how to address ownership about finances, and our daily staff in regards to Human Resource issues.

Eric Spencer and I had a strange relationship. I took a class from him with my roommate. We never read each other's papers, but wrote similarly enough that there was a fear that we were copying from each other. As my integrity has always been my saving grace, I learned that having to go above and beyond to prove my honesty may have to happen in life. This had nothing to do with me personally, but sometimes situations require concessions to make every participant feel whole, or at ease.

Steven Maughan and I had some challenges that I created completely. It took me years to see his point of view on how my conduct in class was not appropriate. However, his presence and position kept nagging at me throughout the years because his approval had value in my eyes. I revisited our interaction in my mind for years until I saw the error of my ways.

Mark Smith came to class on a late afternoon after injuring his ankle in basketball at lunch. He continued to teach, though it was obvious that he was not alright. I learned that things in our lives may not be perfect, but when people depend on us, sometimes our life is not ours and our choices impact many. He toughed through it and that kind of mindset has stuck with me for years.

Though he is not a professor, Paul Bennion and I had a close working relationship when I was the program council director. I did not make his life easy. I'd venture to say that I did not make any of the people already mentioned lives easier. Paul has the ability to keep calm in a storm in a way that I still try to meet to this day. I fail regularly, but he sets a pretty high mark.

Lastly, Lynda Danielson was helpful outside of the classroom, as I never took a class from her. Lynda was the faculty advisor to the cheerleading squad when I was a member. At the time, I had flipped from a questionable work ethic to being maliciously rigid about putting in the physical work to be the best performer that I could. She was helpful in sanding down my edges a little based on a conversation we had on a trip to a cheer camp.

There is a great value given to the book education that is provided at the C of I. The more important thing that I have learned throughout the years is that people don't care how much you know until they know how much you care. Getting the right people on the bus is sometimes more important than having them in the right seat to start. We can't teach caring or empathy, but the professors at the C of I teach a great deal about life outside of class lessons.

All of these professors were able to get through to me though I had pretty unresolved (at that time in my life) emotional issues, trust issues, authority issues, and a questionable drive. It's funny to me now to look back and see how much of the college experience I had was more about modeling healthy behavior than it was information written on a page.

Blake Franklin '17

I would like to shed light on business and accounting Professor John Danielson.

I was a 2017 graduate double majoring in business and human performance.

Throughout my four years at C of I, John Danielson was more than a professor. He was a friend, mentor, role-model, and even father figure.

From the moment I met him at McCall he never forgot my name. Before I even realized who he was he would address me by name and ask how the transition was from my hometown to college life. To be honest, at first I thought he must have been a friend of my parents or something because of the amount of interest he took in me and my success at the College.

During my four years, whether I was in his classes at the time or not, he went out of his way to check in on me and monitor my success and well-being. To this day he still keeps in touch and has become a lifelong friend.

Beyond the relationship we shared he also continues to strive as a professor to make the most out of the students' experience in his classes. He constantly sought my feedback and shared ideas of how he thought he could improve the courses, and was very receptive to feedback. During my short time I saw major improvements in him as a professor, and the word of mouth reviews I heard from students continued to improve every year.

He has had a huge impact on my life and I am sure many other students share the same sentiment.

Ariel (Foster) Serrano '07

I am a 2007 graduate of the college and while every professor I had during my time at C of I impacted me greatly in ways I am still discovering, there are few that will always raise to the top.

Dr. Kathy Seibold - she was the person who inspired me to attend C of I, which at the time was still Albertson College of Idaho and probably will always be for me. Her amazing presentation about her work in Peru at one of the perspective student nights lit a fire within me that pushed me to early admission and the Kathryn Albertson Scholarship award. While attending college Kathy was my go-to person; she became my friend, my mentor, and my caretaker. This is just one story in the many that I have with Kathy. On my second trip to Peru with her, I fell ill and had to be admitted to a local hospital. As if that wasn't scary enough, the physicians started talking about taking one of my kidneys! She was my advocate and my rock through it all; she made sure I was well taken care of, also while taking care of the other students in the group, who were at times more than anyone could handle. There are thousands of memories of AC of I and many of them have Kathy in them.

In the current climate of our nation, I find myself constantly quoting things from my Anthropology training and educating those around me with words like Cultural Assimilation, and that race is a totally made up construct that means nothing, truly. I miss our weekly chats and emails but life does have a way of making us lose touch.

Dr. Mee-Ae Kim - I always loved history and loved learning about how everything eventually connects back to some former event. Mee-Ae was more than just my professor, she was my friend. She showed me how to critically read firsthand accounts of historical events; she gave me my first and only C! :) I appreciated it more than she'll ever know; I was being lazy and she saw right through the BS. She continues to be a wonderful support and mentor for me. As I see things in the media and I second guess my opinions on the current state of our country, I look to her guidance and helpful advice to strengthen my resolve to be a force of good. I love seeing her around Caldwell when I come back to visit and hearing that she has asked my parents about me makes me feel remembered and loved!

Ann Ritter '68

At our recent 50th celebration of graduation from the C of I, 1968 alums had an opportunity to declare which professor we remembered with high regard because of their specific influence. If only you could have been there to listen to the testimonials about how Frank Specht, Louie Attebery, Lyle Stanford, Roger Higdum, Margaret Sinclair, Pat Packard, George Wolfe, Joe Dadabay, Jim Gabbard, and others had such profound influence on each of us. Each department was represented; we all remember football and are glad it is back. The memories provoked laughter and tears with all of us. If only I could remember every detail!

For me three individuals were stellar in their attention to me as a student:

1. Max Peter shared his passion as host of our midterm session with a trip to the Bay Area. We met artists at work and attended galleries. My lifelong interest in the arts was sparked by that trip. For instance, we met the sculptor Peter Voulkos in his studio (a giant warehouse) and I am reminded of that visit when I see the Voulkos piece on display from the Museum collection at Boise Art Museum. Max Peter gifted us with a watercolor for accompanying him and I recently gave my print to Jan Boles for the College Archives. Today I am an active supporter of BAM, Opera Idaho and Boise Philharmonic thanks to Max Peter.

2. Bill Chalker was a man who **lived his faith**. I took as many courses as he taught and attended all services he led. Many principles he presented helped me to guide my quest as a lifelong Methodist. In recent years he visited here and his **clarity of faith** was as **inspirational** as ever in the presentation at First Presbyterian Church in Boise. I will never forget him.

3. Bill Wallace was my choice at the reunion. He **PATIENTLY** walked me through the requirements to complete French as my minor. (There were two FRENCH majors at our reunion so I had to admit I can barely recognize French today as they fluently asked me questions which I did not understand as others laughed.)

French mastery was not the point. Bill Wallace was **authentic and matter of fact**. He pointed out that I was not cut out to be anything close to a linguist. (Elementary Education was my major with Dr. Wendt my supporter!)

These men had the **gift of modeling** techniques of teaching their area of expertise which made me WANT TO LEARN. They were **persistent in their commitment** for me to be successful. They **took time to explain and encourage excellence**. Their demands were appropriate to achieve the highest grades. They were **serious but fun-loving**. To date I even remind Dr. Attebery that I was on pins and needles waiting for my final grade my senior year to graduate CUM LAUDE. I made it, but he held out and was tough in his review of my work.

After graduation I taught in public schools in Washington, Oregon and Idaho, completing a M.ED. at the University of Idaho.

Finally the **Liberal Arts degree** was my ticket to life's work in Human Resource Management with three major corporations: FEDEX, AMERICAN EXPRESS and FIRST SECURITY BANK/WELLS FARGO. Following retirement at 55 I returned to Boise Public Schools for another 10 years in public education.

Cameron Arnzen '17

I have completed a whole week of orientation at Duke – I wanted to write and share some of the experiences that I have had so far that make me thankful for the faculty at The College of Idaho. I am the only graduate student in my cohort of 21 people that attended a liberal arts college. I coincidentally was also the only one not entirely afraid of the faculty on the first day. Not because they weren't terrifying – but because I had already dealt with scarier at C of I.

The faculty at C of I changed my life many times over the course of my attendance. I consistently found myself exploring new and exciting paths resulting from various faculty pushing me to explore and ask new questions. The beauty of that exploration was that the faculty were always there to support me and my peers in all endeavors.

Through honesty, compassion, and support, the faculty helped guide me through the good and the bad. While the four years as an undergraduate can be very transformative, it meant the world to me that the people I looked up to supported my growth and development – not just as a student, but also as a person. I didn't know who I was entering The College of Idaho, but faculty consistently helped me take steps of discovery.

I graduated The College of Idaho with more questions than I had when I started, but the faculty helped me develop better tools to go about answering them.

The faculty truly make The College what it is. While C of I has received various recognitions lately, no national recognition or award could ever truly capture the impact that faculty have on their students as teachers, scholars, and as mentors.

As I take the next step in my own journey, it is comforting to know that I still have faculty supporting and staying in contact with me. The faculty have had a lasting impact in my life.

I am thankful for it all.