

MINUTES  
**SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

- DATE:** Monday, February 04, 2019
- TIME:** 3:00 P.M.
- PLACE:** Room WW55
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Mortimer, Vice Chairman Thayn, Senators Winder, Den Hartog, Crabtree, Woodward, Lent, Buckner-Webb, and Ward-Engelking
- ABSENT/ EXCUSED:** None
- NOTE:** The sign-in sheet, testimonies and other related materials will be retained with the minutes in the committee's office until the end of the session and will then be located on file with the minutes in the Legislative Services Library.
- CONVENED:** **Chairman Mortimer** called the Education Committee (Committee) to order at 3:06 p.m. He opened with a reading from the book, *A Heap O' Living Along Life's Highway*, by Eager A. Guest, the poem, "The Bumps and Bruises Doctor."
- PRESENTATION:** **Dr. Martin Schimpf**, Interim President, Boise State University (BSU), introduced the BSU affiliates in the audience. He reported to the Committee his connection to Idaho and the changes he has witnessed during the last 30 years. He said BSU has grown from a commuter school to a metropolitan school of over 30,000 students.
- Dr. Schimpf** said his presentation will address the questions that were posed to him by Chairman Mortimer.
- In response to what is going "right" with BSU, **Dr. Schimpf** replied BSU has been reclassified by the Carnegie system as a doctoral research university with high research activity. He said there has been a dramatic increase in recruiting and retaining top students and professors. He explained the type of student who is enrolling at BSU.
- Dr. Schimpf** said to off-set some of the increasing educational costs to students, BSU is working to advise students so they can have a timely completion of their degree. He said the faculty and staff are developing new transdisciplinary degree programs and detailed some of the new program offerings.
- Dr. Schimpf** addressed the Advanced Opportunities program. He stated it has created great cost savings for students but possible challenges for colleges and universities. He said BSU will serve over 6,000 new students in the 2018-2019 school year and said the percentage of new students who arrive on campus with dual credits is nearly 40 percent.
- In response to collaborative efforts with other state institutions, **Dr. Schimpf** stated concurrent enrollment has been an ongoing effort. He explained Bronco Connect, which works with students coming out of the College of Southern Idaho and the College of Western Idaho and facilitates the students' seamless transition into BSU.
- In conclusion, **Dr. Schimpf** said BSU is in the list of the top 50 schools in the country and they have played a significant role in the growth and economic vitality of the State.

**Dr. Schimpf** addressed the questions from the Committee. He reported the graduation rates for four-year and six-year students. There are more out-of-state students graduating at a faster pace, which is bringing up the four-year rate. He noted that the average GPA was the same for both groups. He explained how BSU is working to develop resources for the open source textbooks, college and career advising, concurrent programming, ongoing innovation, and the diversity mix (Attachment 1).

**PRESENTATION: Robyn Lockett**, Principal Budget and Policy Analyst, Legislative Services Office (LSO), reviewed for the Committee the K-12 Budget requests brought forth by the Governor's Office and the State Department of Education (SDE). She said there are eight appropriation bills regarding education funding. She detailed the 2020 \$2 billion request and compared in detail the Governor's request versus the Superintendent of Public Instruction's request (Attachment 2).

Committee members asked for clarification on funding for the Career Ladder, local spending discretion, Mastery Based Instruction, and literacy funding.

**PRESENTATION: Janet Jessup**, Senior Budget and Policy Analyst, LSO, presented the 2020 proposed higher education budget. She detailed the allocations to the different universities and colleges as well as the line item requests and recommendations. She said the Career Technical Education items are embedded in the institutions budget (Attachment 3).

**Chairman Mortimer** advised the Committee to study the budget information so they can make budget recommendations at a later meeting.

**RECORDING LINK:** To hear the complete BSU and budget recommendations, go to: <https://legislature.idaho.gov/sessioninfo/2019/standingcommittees/SEDU/>.

**ADJOURNED:** There being no further business at this time, **Chairman Mortimer** adjourned the meeting at 4:49 p.m.

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Senator Dean M. Mortimer  
Chair

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LeAnn Mohr  
Secretary