

May 19, 2004

STATE BOARD RENEWS COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT CONTRACTS

BOISE - The Idaho State Board of Education renewed contracts for Idaho's college and university presidents and increased their salaries consistent with the two percent raise recommended by the Governor.

"Idaho's students are fortunate to have the steady leadership of Dr. Richard Bowen, Dr. Bob Kustra, Dr. Dene Thomas, and Bill Robertson. The Board also looks forward to Dr. Tim White's leadership at the University of Idaho when he begins work July 1," said State Board of Education President Rod Lewis.

"Despite sluggish financial times, our universities and colleges are expanding programs and graduating more students. The Board is pleased with each president's performance and authorized salary increases to compensate them for a job well done."

The Board increased president salaries to the following: (previous salaries are in parenthesis):

- Interim president of Eastern Idaho Technical College William Robertson \$98,700 (\$96,678)
- Boise State University President Dr. Bob Kustra \$165,240 (\$162,000)
- Idaho State University President Dr. Richard Bowen \$165, 240 (\$162,011)
- Lewis-Clark State College President Dr. Dene Thomas \$125,000 (\$121,000) Dr. Thomas was also given tenure at the college.
- University of Idaho President Dr. Timothy White \$162,000

The Board also designated the Idaho Virtual Academy as a Local Education Agency (LEA) allowing the school to receive direct federal funding. An LEA is defined as a local organization, such as a school district, that delivers educational services.