

January 4, 2005

NATIONAL LEADERS TO DISCUSS HIGHER EDUCATION

Board Members, Legislators, University Presidents to Participate

BOISE - Four national leaders will present information and guide discussions on strengthening higher education in Idaho on Thursday, January 6, as part of a statewide conference.

The conference is part of the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education's (WICHE) Changing Direction project, which focuses on issues of national prominence and critical importance to Idaho - including appropriations, fees, and financial aid. Idaho was one of five states selected for a grant to conduct research on higher education policy and report on the issues affecting access to college.

The conference begins at 8 a.m. in Boise at the JR Williams Building, Basement Conference Room. From 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. David Longanecker, executive director of WICHE; Julia Davis Bell, National Council on State Legislatures (NCSL); and Dennis Jones, National Center for Higher Education Management Systems (NCHEMS) will discuss the critical variables which impact access to postsecondary education.

From 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. legislators, board members and university presidents will participate in a round table discussion on higher education funding.

At 12 p.m. Paul Lingenfelter, Executive Director, State Higher Education Executive Officers (SHEEO), who serves on the National Commission for Higher Education Accountability, will speak about the accountability movement in higher education.