

IDAPA RULE IDAPA FEE BOARD ACTION REQUIRED
 BOARD POLICY x INFO ONLY, NO ACTION REQUIRED

AGENDA ITEM
Idaho Park and Recreation Quarterly Meeting
December 1, 2021
IDPR Headquarters
5657 Warm Springs Ave.
Boise, ID 83716

AGENDA ITEM: University of Idaho MOU

ACTION REQUIRED: None/Information Only

PRESENTER: Director Buxton

PRESENTATION

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: IDPR is considering an exciting proposal to partner with the University of Idaho on a shared professorship which will add academic resources to the department's historical, cultural and environmental interpretation and educational efforts moving forward.

The university will hire a professor in the Natural Resources College who will focus on teaching, research and outreach in the fields of recreational ecology, and environmental, cultural and historical interpretative programming. Twenty percent of the position's time will be dedicated to outreach and direct support of IDPR's interpretation and environmental education efforts. The professor will work directly with members of IDPR Interpretive Team to create new programming for park use that will lend academic heft to traditional approaches to storytelling and teaching. Much of the professor's time will be spent researching the economic, ecological and sociological aspects of parks and recreational management, related natural resource challenges and the social, economic and ecological components of recreational and tourism management.

As part of the proposed memorandum of understanding, IDPR will agree to pay half of the salary of a professor to work with IDPR employees to engage the public with programs about historical and cultural interpretation and environmental education, supporting the revamped Interpretation Program debuting during the second half of fiscal 2022.

The professor will be an employee of the university but IDPR will pay half of the anticipated \$80,000 annual salary. IDPR will be part of the hiring committee for the position. Although the agreement has a 10-year term, each party can suspend the arrangement with a 90-day notice.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS: None/Information Only. When MOU is completed, it will be presented to the Board for review and potential execution.