



## A Willingness to Explore Is Key to University's Success

I hope you have enjoyed reading the premier issue of *Explore*, and that you have found it both interesting and informative.

In this issue, we have featured just a few of the many outstanding research programs and creative endeavors that are flourishing at Boise State University. Together, these articles offer a “slice of the university.” In subsequent issues of *Explore*, we look forward to sharing more stories about our talented faculty and the diverse projects they are pursuing across our campus.

The decision to launch a new research magazine at this point in Boise State's history is significant. It speaks to the importance of research to our future as an emerging metropolitan research university of distinction, and to the strength and dynamism of our growing programs.

We chose the name *Explore* for a number of reasons. First, it underscores Boise State's commitment to open-ended inquiry in both the sciences and the humanities. Exploration also is a key concept in the university's map-themed strategic plan, titled “Charting the Course,” which identifies routes, or strategies, that Boise State should explore to reach its goals.

Finally, “explore” speaks to the process that is integral to all great discoveries – the ability to think beyond what is to what might be. Boise State is an institution that values vision as well as expertise. Both are important, and both will fuel our progress in the years ahead.

As our university charts its future course, it is our ability and willingness to explore that will determine our contributions and success. I invite you to join us on this journey.

– MARK RUDIN, VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH