

DIRECTOR'S DIARY:

A look back at 2003-2004

The past year has been a whirlwind of activity for the new School of



KENTON BIRD

Journalism and Mass Media. We launched a new curriculum, celebrated achievements by students, faculty and alumni, and strengthened connections with media industries

across the Northwest.

Here's a brief recap of the past 12 months:

May 29, 2003 — I returned

from a week-long field trip to Seattle (*story, Page 3*) to discover that Chris Campbell, director of the School since 2000, had accepted a job as director of the Scripps Howard School of Journalism and Communication at Hampton University in Virginia. Days later, Dean Joe Zeller asked me to become interim director. On July 1, JAMM was officially born.

June — The third annual Scripps Howard Multicultural Journalism Workshop brought 19 high school students from Washington, Idaho and Montana to campus. Under the direction of faculty members and UI student mentors, the workshop participants wrote stories for the summer Argonaut and KUOI News, created a Web site and produced a television news magazine about their experiences.

August — A half-day faculty retreat welcomed six new lecturers, whose professional backgrounds contributed greatly to student learning this year. We also heard from Joe Zeller, dean of the College of Letters, Arts and Social Sciences, about some of the budget challenges facing the university.

September — An ice cream social on the lawn outside KUID-TV welcomed students back to campus. Inside the station, students took advantage of more than \$35,000 worth of upgrades and new equipment (*story, Page 1*).

October — Bert Cross, professor emeritus of journalism, received an Idaho Treasure Award from the UI Retirees Association to recognize his contributions to the university and community. Later in the month,

Boise members of the JAMM Advisory Board gathered at Idaho Public Television headquarters. Faculty and staff members in Moscow participated via video link to KUID's conference room.

November — I attended the Pacific Northwest Newspaper Association's annual meeting in Portland. This was an opportunity to say thanks to a group that supports journalism education around the region through regular campus visits and grants. I also visited UI alumni who work in newspapers, television and advertising in the Portland area.

December — Thirty-nine students completed degrees from the school, the largest mid-year graduating class since the UI established a winter commencement ceremony.

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Shoup of the day

Former residence hall has transformed into media mecca

BY JAKE ALGER

From the looks of it Shoup Hall could be called the tapioca pudding of Sixth Street's lineup of residence hall buildings. What the cream-colored, heavily windowed rectangle lacks in structural flair and bright colors, however, it makes up for in diverse utility.

Shoup — located between the McConnell and Wallace student residences on the northwest corner of Sixth and Rayburn streets — houses the University of Idaho's School of Journalism and Mass Media, Department of Theatre and Film, and Air Force ROTC.

But it hasn't always been an abode for academic departments; it was a dormitory for the first 40 years of its existence.

Built in 1958 for \$375,000, the building was named in honor of George L. Shoup, the Idaho's last territorial governor and first state governor.

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Shoup Hall, a former dormitory, now houses JAMM. (photo: Karin Clifford)

JAMM SESSION

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- Compiled by: *Kenton Bird and Sue Hinz*
- Produced by: *Joy Barbour (JAMM graduate, December 2003)*

CONTRIBUTORS:

- **Jake Alger**, 2004 graduate, journalism
- **Jenny Sue Anchondo**, 2004 graduate, journalism
- **Jessie Bonner**, junior, journalism
- **Heather Coddington**, sophomore, public relations
- **Rebecca Conrad**, 2004 graduate, marketing
- **Josh Dean**, 2004 graduate, journalism

- **Audrey Edgerton**, junior, public communication
- **Josh Montreuil**, 2004 graduate, journalism
- **Riane Murphy**, senior, public communication
- **Brian Passey**, 2004 graduate, journalism
- **Sam Taylor**, sophomore, journalism
- **Jessie M. Waddell**, senior, journalism
- **Ryan Wingfield**, 2003 graduate, visual communication; 2004 graduate, journalism
- **Josh Wright**, senior, journalism and history