



Bert Glandon
President
College of Western Idaho

When I was named president of the College of Western Idaho earlier this year I could not wait to get started and seize the tremendous opportunities ahead. As you might expect, these first few weeks have been exhilarating – from getting to know our dedicated staff to kicking off our first fall semester to developing plans for the years to come. It is hard to believe it has been less than two months since I joined CWI, and I can't imagine a more exciting time to be here.

In early July we officially welcomed the educational talent, curriculum and history of the Larry G. Selland College of Applied Technology to the CWI family. On August 24 we began our first fall semester as a comprehensive community college while tripling our enrollment from the spring semester. I believe this is a record for any community college, and especially impressive for one in its second semester of existence. We also embarked on the longest ribbon cutting ceremony in the state as we officially united our seven campuses across Southwest Idaho during one historic day. Finally, we paused to celebrate these achievements and thank the community with our first public event on August 29 – a concert featuring local guitar hero Ned Evett, whose music was the centerpiece of our recent campaign.

Of course we could have never achieved what we have without the support of our community and a number of great partners. The vote that established the foundation for CWI gave us a tremendous opportunity to build something special and fulfill a substantial community need. As we thank the community, local and state leaders and other key partners that include Governor Otter, the state legislature, the J.A. & Kathryn Albertson Foundation, the College of Southern Idaho and Boise State University for their support, we realize these accomplishments are just the beginning of what we can achieve together.

I hope that you share my enthusiasm about the opportunities ahead of us. Since we opened our doors to students less than two years after our inception, we realize we can accomplish whatever we choose. This focus will always be to best serve the needs of our community through affordable, quality teaching and learning for all, regardless of time and distance. With your ongoing support and partnership, we will continue to evolve throughout the days, months and years ahead and seize every opportunity to strengthen our community together.

In The News

[Enrollment triples at CWI; Glandon: more to come](#)
8/31/09—Idaho Business Review

[College of Western Idaho launches 7 campus locations](#)
8/26/09—KTVB

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