Our Vision:
To be recognized as one of the West’s most potent baccalaureate programs in philosophy.

Our Mission:
To inspire every student to think critically and communicate effectively; to produce graduates with the highest degree of competence; to make substantial contributions in research.

Department of Philosophy
Boise State University
1910 University Dr.
Boise, Idaho 83725-1550
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Department of Philosophy
Strategic Plan 2008 - 2013

1. Provide Student Centered Services
   - Offer a curriculum that allows undergraduates to ‘Finish in Four’ ✓
   - Implement senior capstone course (PHIL 495) ✓
   - Conduct program assessment
   - Expand internship opportunities ✓
   - Enhance curriculum, especially in the area of Ethics
   - Add new official faculty to better serve students

2. Recruit and Retain Academically Prepared Students
   - Enhance scholarship opportunities for students
   - Operationalize assignment of advisors to continuing and newly-declared majors ✓
   - Publish and distribute departmental journal to local high school students
   - Highlight student achievements on retooled departmental website ✓

3. Develop Network and Outreach Opportunities
   - Cultivate and maintain better connections with alumni
   - Publish and distribute departmental newsletter for alumni, community members, and legislators
   - Expand Philosophy Club’s engagement with community ✓
   - Forge closer relationship with philosophy departments at the University of Idaho and Washington State University ✓
   - Host the Inland Northwest Philosophy Conference on a rotating basis
4. Recruit and Retain Faculty to Support the Vision
   • Articulate the need for additional official faculty positions ✓
   • Advocate for increased travel funding for faculty ✓
   • Recognize, facilitate, and reward faculty accomplishments ✓
   • Forge closer working relationship with VPR’s office and staff ✓
   • Implement more efficient class schedules and reduced teaching workloads

5. Provide Opportunities for Faculty to Integrate Research and Teaching
   • Administer internships dedicated to research assistants ✓
   • Routinely offer Special Topics courses to encourage infusing current research into the class room
   • Reward faculty for directing Senior Tutorials (PHIL 489)

6. Obtain the fiscal resources necessary to support this vision
   • Advocate for higher and enrollment-based academic unit budgets
   • Increase number and amounts of competitive extramural research awards ✓
   • Identify potential benefactors ✓
   • Activate mechanisms on website and in newsletter for alumni and community contributions ✓

Our Philosophy:
Irrespective of major, every student needs to have good critical reasoning skills and a sense of intellectual history in order to contribute to our shared well-being and prosperity.