

Dr. Carolyn Hovde Bohach is the 2020 recipient of the **W. Fred Taylor PhD Award for Outstanding Contributions to the NIH IDeA Program**. This national award, given by the EPSCoR/IDeA Coalition and Foundation Boards, recognizes an individual who has contributed significantly to enhancing the impact of the NIH Institutional Development Award (IDeA) Program. The award honors the commitment of Dr. W. Fred Taylor during his 20 years of service at NIH to expand opportunities for students, faculty, and institutions in states and territories that have had historically low levels of NIH funding for biomedical research. Dr. Bohach is a University Distinguished Professor in the CALS department of Animal Veterinary and Food Science at the University of Idaho. She has served as the Director of the statewide Idaho INBRE Program in the College of Science since 2006.

The Idaho INBRE Program includes 11 public and private institutions of higher education across Idaho and partners with all six INBRE programs across the Western U.S. in AK, HI, MT, NM, NV, and WY. The multi-million-dollar program increases the capacity of Idaho to do competitive biomedical research to improve the health of the nation. Programs include faculty research support, student opportunities in research and STEM education, and research infrastructure.

History of the EPSCoR/IDeA Coalition and Foundation: In 1988, a group of EPSCoR states formed the Coalition and retained Van Scoyoc Associates (VSA) to lobby on their behalf. VSA efforts led to the creation of EPSCoR programs at NASA, DOE, USDA, DOD, EPA, and, in 1993, the IDeA program at the NIH. The EPSCoR/IDeA Foundation was formed in 1995 by the first NSF EPSCoR Director. The Foundation is a non-lobbying organization that supports the Coalition in areas other than advocacy.