Idaho Technology Council
877 W Main St, Ste 503
Boise, ID 83702

April 24, 2025

The Honorable Mike Simpson
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Subject: Support for Boise State University's FY26 Community Project Funding Request

Dear Representative Simpson,

I am writing on behalf of the Idaho Technology Council (ITC) to express our support for Boise State University's Fiscal Year 2026 community project funding request through the U.S. Department of Commerce's National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST).

The Idaho Technology Council's mission is to build a strong tech community in Idaho by bringing people together, supporting tech education, and advocating for policies that promote sustainable growth. We are dedicated to advancing initiatives that enhance our state's capacity for scientific discovery, high-tech entrepreneurship, and workforce development.

Boise State's Quantum DNA (qDNA) Research Group embodies these priorities. Their pioneering work in developing room-temperature quantum materials is positioning Idaho as a key player in the emerging field of quantum computing. Investing in this project is an investment in the technologies that will shape the future. Quantum computing represents a strategic domain for national competitiveness, and success in this field depends on our ability to grow a robust research foundation and a highly skilled technical workforce. Boise State's program is helping to build both.

This community project funding will expand scientific capabilities, provide students with hands-on experience in cutting-edge technologies, and further elevate Idaho's leadership in the quantum era. We support this request and encourage your consideration of this impactful investment.

Thank you for your continued leadership and dedication to Idaho's innovation economy.

President and CEO

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

514 W. Jefferson Street, Suite 131, Boise, Idaho 83720

Dear Congressman Simpson:

I write in support of a research request from Boise State University for community project funding from the U.S. Department of Commerce's National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) that is important to our national and economic security. This request also boosts efforts to drive Idaho scientific and technical workforce development needs.

Securing Fiscal Year 2026 NIST funding will continue scientific discovery and research that has already established Boise State scientists as leaders in the field of room temperature quantum computing.

As you know quantum computing systems promise to transform information science. It means faster computation speeds, improved accuracy in machine learning, advancements in cryptography, and breakthroughs in drug development, materials science and complex manufacturing. Boise State's ongoing research and existing collaborations are focused on materials that function at room temperature and allows structures 1000 times smaller than conventional approaches. Continued investment in this research will catalyze the emerging quantum economy in Idaho and its potential to reshape the innovation and investment landscape nationwide.

The United States continues to be the global leader in semiconductor design and development. This leadership begins with the basic scientific discoveries like those which are taking place at Boise State University and all of which support workforce development initiatives with students engaging in leading edge research and development. It is for these reasons we support Boise State's request for Fiscal Year 2026 NIST funding to continue this important research effort. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or need additional information.

Best regards,

Wendi Secrist

Wendi Secrist
Executive Director

QUANTINUUM

Letter of Support for Boise State University Community Project Request

April 24, 2025

Congressman Mike Simpson
2084 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Simpson:

We are writing to offer our support for Boise State University's request for Fiscal Year 2026 Community Project Funding through the U.S. Department of Commerce's National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). This request represents a strategic investment in research critical to both national security and technological competitiveness, while addressing Idaho's growing need for a skilled scientific and technical workforce.

This funding will advance the work of Boise State's Quantum DNA (qDNA) Research Group, which has emerged as a national leader in the development of molecular materials for room-temperature quantum computing. Continued investment in this area will support transformative scientific discovery, further positioning Boise State as a hub for quantum research and workforce development in the West.

Quantum computing stands to revolutionize nearly every sector of the global economy. It holds the promise of exponentially faster computation, ultra-secure communications, and breakthrough capabilities in fields such as cybersecurity, drug discovery, climate modeling, artificial intelligence, and advanced manufacturing. The work of the qDNA team at Boise State—specifically its focus on quantum materials that operate at room temperature and enable structures 1,000 times smaller than conventional technologies—is a bold step toward making quantum computing both scalable and energy-efficient.

This vision aligns with efforts by industry leaders like Quantinuum, the world's largest integrated quantum computing company. Quantinuum is at the forefront of building hardware and developing quantum software applications, including in quantum cybersecurity and quantum chemistry. The company's innovations have demonstrated real-world quantum advantage and continue to push the boundaries of what is possible in the field. Federal investment in foundational research—such as the work being done at Boise State—is essential to sustaining momentum and bridging the gap between academic discovery and commercial application.

Moreover, Boise State's program is a catalyst for regional and national workforce development. It provides students and early-career researchers with hands-on experience in cutting-edge R&D, preparing them for roles in a rapidly evolving quantum technology landscape. This aligns with national priorities to build a robust quantum workforce and ensure the U.S. remains a global leader in emerging technologies.

For these reasons, we respectfully encourage you to support Boise State University's FY26 NIST community project funding request. Please don't hesitate to reach out should you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

Kaniah Konkoly-Thege

Kaniah Konkoly-Thege
Chief Legal Officer & Senior Vice President for Government Relations
Quantinuum, LLC