

## News Release Regional Banking Communications

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**Wells Fargo and College of Western Idaho drive new program** *Grant of \$10,000 awarded to collaborative effort to mentor students for success* 

**BOISE, Idaho, December 11, 2013** – Wells Fargo today announces a partnership with the College of Western Idaho (CWI) to create an innovative new mentorship program for CWI students. Wells Fargo is supporting the institution and initiative with a \$10,000 grant in addition to time and resources.

The mentorship program pairs local professionals with students studying in a variety of majors. Mentors meet monthly with a small group of students to further develop leadership skills and networking opportunities within their discipline.

"Wells Fargo's support of developing professional leaders in the community is outstanding," notes CWI President Bert Glandon. 'We are thrilled to have them as our partner in championing CWI's mentorship program. Opportunities to engage with the community through programs like these are critical to our students' success, and the support of Wells Fargo helps make this possible."

CWI is committed to providing affordable, open-access to quality teaching and learning opportunities for Idaho residents. This mission aligns closely with Wells Fargo's focus on education.

"Education is vital to our community, and it's an integral part of Wells Fargo's vision and values," said Don Melendez, president for Wells Fargo Idaho Regional Banking. "We're very proud to work with CWI, particularly on this new mentorship program that we expect to multiply student opportunity for success and preparedness upon graduation, bringing integrity and critical thinking to the workplace."

Nationwide, Wells Fargo's 2012 community investments in education included \$75.7 million to 8,000 educational programs and schools around the U.S., and \$19.3 million in matched educational donations from team members.



## About College of Western Idaho

The College of Western Idaho is a comprehensive community college fostering student development academically, as well as occupationally. CWI has seven campus locations throughout Southwest Idaho providing higher education and 21st Century technical skills acquisition. The college is dedicated to improving the community's economic well-being by responding with highly-educated and productive graduates. The foundation for the area's only community college was created by a supermajority of voters in Ada and Canyon counties on May 22, 2007. For more information, visit www.cwidaho.cc or call (208) 562-3000.

## **About Wells Fargo**

Wells Fargo employs 2,200 team members and serves 255,000 households across Idaho from 88 stores and 93 ATMs. Wells Fargo & Company (NYSE: WFC) is a nationwide, diversified, community-based financial services company with \$1.4 trillion in assets. Founded in 1852 and headquartered in San Francisco, Wells Fargo provides banking, insurance, investments, mortgage, and consumer and commercial finance through more than 9,000 stores, 12,000 ATMs, and the Internet (wellsfargo.com), and has offices in more than 35 countries to support the bank's customers who conduct business in the global economy. With more than 270,000 team members, Wells Fargo serves one in three households in the United States. Wells Fargo & Company was ranked No. 25 on Fortune's 2013 rankings of America's largest corporations. Wells Fargo's vision is to satisfy all our customers' financial needs and help them succeed financially. In 2012, the Company invested \$315.8 million in grants to 19,500 nonprofits, and team members contributed more than 1.5 million volunteer hours around the country. For more information, please visit: www.wellsfargo.com/about/csr. Wells Fargo perspectives are also available at <u>blogs.wellsfargo.com</u>.

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