



# LCSC HERITAGE

## Sacajawea Hall

**Date Constructed: 2009**

James E. Risch became Idaho's 31<sup>st</sup> Governor in May 2006 to fulfill the remaining seven months of former Governor Dirk Kempthorne, who resigned to become the Secretary of the Interior. In those seven months, Governor Risch focused on Idaho's critical nursing shortage. He appointed a task force to make recommendations to address the issue. He learned that Idaho's nursing programs were filled to capacity, and all of the programs reported difficulty in attracting and retaining qualified faculty. Risch and his wife Vicki personally visited many programs and evaluated the educational facilities.

Governor Risch's tour of Lewis-Clark State College's nursing and science building was prolonged by a torrential rain and wind storm that forced rain water to flood under the doors of Meriwether Lewis Hall. Governor Risch often later remarked that this incident with the weather helped pave the way for LCSC to receive a nursing building.

In 2007, newly elected Governor C. L. "Butch" Otter signed legislation to provide Lewis-Clark State College with funding to build a \$16 million nursing and health science facility. McAlvain Construction and ZGA Architects, both of Boise, spent a year working with LCSC officials on the design and functions of the building prior to its construction.

The Nursing Health Science building was completed in the summer of 2009. It sits on approximately 1.9 acres on the northwest corner of the main campus. The 60,000-square foot, two-level Sacajawea Hall features six classrooms, one computer lab, seven science labs, three nursing labs, one radiography lab, and 33 faculty offices with space for 37 faculty members. The facility also has several student leisure areas.

Naming the newly constructed nursing/health sciences building Sacajawea Hall stayed in keeping with Lewis-Clark State College's history and tradition of the Lewis and Clark journey. Sacajawea's guidance of Lewis and Clark was an act of help and caring, much in the nursing and health care tradition.

Carol Ann Grende created the statue, Sacajawea Arduous Journey, located in front of Sacajawea Hall. The near 10-foot tall bronze monument depicts Sacajawea on the portage route in June of 1805 climbing a rugged hill near the Great Falls of the Missouri River while carrying her little baby, Pomp, on her back. She is a reminder to all those who see her of the more difficult days of travelers long ago. She served as a symbol of peace for the Corps of Discovery.

Information taken from the *Campus Facility Master Plan*, Press Release from the Office of Governor James Risch; Press Release from Lewis-Clark State College