



TJ Bliss, Ph.D., is a passionate, trustworthy, and effective professional with a proven record of intuitive and insightful higher education and public leadership. He fosters collaboration, fiscal responsibility, and inclusive problem solving by building deep relationships of trust to achieve outcomes, create positive culture, and lead people toward collective vision. Currently, Dr. Bliss is the Chief Academic Officer for the Idaho State Board of Education and a clinical assistant professor in Education Leadership at the University of Idaho.

Dr. Bliss was formerly the Chief Advancement Officer at the Wiki Education Foundation, Education Program Officer at the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, and the Director of Assessment and Accountability at the Idaho Department of Education. Through these senior leadership roles,

he has worked to increase access, affordability, and success for students at the international, national, state, and institutional levels, across higher education and K-12.

Dr. Bliss is an internationally recognized researcher who has published numerous articles in the field of Open Educational Resources (OER). He co-developed the COUP (Costs, Outcomes, Uses, and Perceptions) research framework that has become foundational in open education research throughout the world. He was also directly involved in the development of the UNESCO Recommendation on OER and participates in national and international efforts to implement the actions adopted through this high-level policy instrument.

Dr. Bliss has extensive higher education and nonprofit leadership experience, particularly at the state and system level. He currently serves on the Executive Committee of the Western Academic Leadership Forum, on Idaho's Council on Academic Affairs and Programs, and on the Alumni Board of Brigham Young University. He is also the Higher Education Lead for Idaho to the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium and Chair of the Wiki Education Advisory Board.

Dr. Bliss resides in Boise with his family, where he enjoys reading to his children, cycling, and playing the cello.

Dear Regents,

Please accept this letter of application and curriculum vitae for the position of Chancellor of the Nevada System of Higher Education. My laser focus on student success, demonstrated ability to bring people together to work toward shared decision-making, dogged advocacy for higher education, and unique expertise in senior administration and system policy make me well-qualified to lead NSHE into the future. As a native of the West, I have spent a lot of time in Nevada and want to be a part of ensuring its continued growth and development through a robust and well-utilized higher education system. I am prepared to work with you and the presidents, as well as with faculty, students, elected officials and the business community, to continue building a world-class system that draws people to Nevada, grows opportunities for learners to stay there, and enriches the lives of all its citizens. Here are some highlights of the attributes, characteristics, and experience I would bring to this important role:

A proven leader, recognized for unwavering integrity, ability to resolve difficult political issues with grace, and dedication to shared governance. My leadership philosophy consists of three principles: Honor agency. Invite accountability. Give compassion. Consistently implementing these principles creates a culture infused with hope and brimming with vision. These principles show up in the ways I lead complex, cross-institutional teams. They are particularly evident in the way my team and I lead academic, student, research, and multicultural affairs across the eight higher education institutions in Idaho. Our collaborative work with the presidents, provosts, research administrators, faculty, and broader community is a testament to the impact of these principles in operation.

A strategic thinker with demonstrable success in developing and implementing effective strategic plans in multiple organizations. As one example, I led the development and implementation of the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation's global strategic plan for open educational resources (OER). This plan, implemented over several years, led to massive increases in funding for OER in higher education in multiple states, demonstrable improvements in faculty pedagogy and student learning at hundreds of institutions, and international policy that requires all 193 countries to report on open education activities and impacts. I currently lead the strategic plan for the digital campus initiative known as Online Idaho. This system-wide initiative to increase access and affordability was developed in response to the pandemic and has required significant resilience and innovation in response to a dynamic situation.

Deeply committed to the ideas of systemness and collaboration for progress. I have effectively led cooperation across multiple institutions to create a whole greater than the sum of its parts. In my current role, I have facilitated significant change across all of Idaho's higher education institutions. In particular, our team has advanced priorities to establish a more system-like approach in a historically federated and competitive higher education landscape. From land-grant, to professional, to urban comprehensive, to technical education, to community college functions, Idaho's institutions have as many similarities as they have differences. They are as geographically dispersed as they can be, separated by vast distances, impassable mountain ranges, a time zone, and surprisingly deep cultural differences. Despite this complexity, I have successfully led multiple statewide initiatives, including establishment of a uniform learning management system, a co-admit/co-enroll agreement, a financial aid agreement, remediation reform, and a statewide online course sharing platform. I would leverage my deep, hands-on experience to connect more Nevada residents to the incredible value the system has to offer.

Strong political acumen, evidenced by productive and trust-based relationships with many elected and appointed political leaders at state, national, and international levels. I currently serve at the pleasure of an eight-member Board of Education appointed by the Governor. In this role, I work regularly with Board members, the Governor, executive agency staff, legislators, and institutional presidents to carry out the mission of the board and improve educational access, affordability, and success for all students. In particular, I led the Board's efforts to effectively respond to concerns raised by the legislature about the impact of campus climates on student learning and belonging. Through my efforts leading data collection, policy development, and communication with elected officials, we were able to bring the temperature down a few notches in a very hot political environment. That year, the legislature provided record levels of funding for higher education in Idaho, despite cutting budgets the previous year.

Financially savvy leader with demonstrated success in effectively structuring shared services to create economies of scale. I oversee a multi-million dollar budget focused on academic success initiatives and work closely with our chief financial officer to manage the entire postsecondary budget for the eight institutions in Idaho. We work with our statewide and institutional audit and risk teams to ensure appropriate controls, and we work with our board and institutional leaders to identify areas for strategic investment across the spectrum of instruction, research, student affairs, facilities, and athletics. I have successfully overseen the establishment of multiple statewide contracts for academic technology, and have supported our Board's efforts to establish similar shared services for other aspects of institutional operations. My capabilities with these fiscal matters, combined with my success in leading statewide initiatives related to instruction, research, and student affairs in Idaho, are evidence of my ability to meet your priorities for the next Chancellor.

My unique background and executive experience, not just in higher education, but in philanthropy and the non-profit sector on the global stage, have prepared me exceedingly well to be successful as the next Chancellor of NSHE. I am an **advocate and champion** of higher education. I know how to **lead the leaders** in building a shared vision, inspiring action and engaging communities, having done this in Idaho across eight institutions, and internationally across 40+ non-profit organizations. I know how to **hone and strengthen universities and colleges** through collaboration, cooperation, and synergistic action. **I have lifelong connections to Nevada**, and understand what makes it special - from its incredible natural wonders to its unique blend of iconic entertainment. And I embrace a **spirit of innovation** in every aspect of my work, whether this means adopting AI to improve basic office functions, providing funding for groundbreaking cybersecurity and nuclear research, or supporting new pedagogies to improve teaching and learning.

I am prepared to lead NSHE now and into the future by fostering the financial and operational strength of the entire system. I am energetic, bold, decisive, forward-thinking, and authentic. The room gets lighter when I *enter* the room, not when I *leave* it, because of my intentional efforts to cultivate the personal characteristics of honesty, trust, openness, empathy, humility, and good-natured humor. I appreciate the time and effort you are taking to choose the next Chancellor and would be honored to have the opportunity to meet with you to discuss my candidacy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "TJ Bliss". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

TJ Bliss, Ph.D.

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2020 – Current **Chief Academic Officer** – *Idaho State Board of Education, Boise, ID*
- Advise the Board on policy and strategic objectives
 - Drive office and system-level decision-making toward successful outcomes
 - Oversee accreditation policy and standards for all public institutions
 - Represent the Board to internal and external stakeholders
 - Develop and sustain effective team and organizational cultures
 - Manage managers and executive-level staff
 - Collaboratively manage appropriations, revenue, and fiscal strategy
 - Liaise with presidents, provosts, policymakers, board members, et al.
 - Implement an effective system of academic programs for student success
 - Expand access and affordability to higher education for all students
- 2017–2020 **Chief Advancement Officer** – *Wiki Education, San Francisco, CA*
- Served as key member of executive leadership team to drive outcomes
 - Inspired teammates using enthusiastic and trust-based management
 - Co-designed multi-year org strategy and annual action plans
 - Raised \$2M+ per year to support all organizational operations
 - Built a sustainable revenue model and fundraising strategy
 - Forged strong relationships with funders and other partners
- 2014–2017 **Program Officer, Education** – *The William and Flora Hewlett Fnd., Menlo Park, CA*
- Led highly successful Open Education grantmaking team and strategy
 - Advocated for and supported the worldwide OER community
 - Funded the development of the UNESCO Recommendation on OER
 - Forged trust-based relationships with global education leaders
 - Awarded \$45M in philanthropic grants to over 35 non-profit orgs
 - Designed and implemented an evidence-based philanthropic strategy
- 2013–2014 **Director of Assessment & Accountability** – *State Department of Education, Boise, ID*
- Rebuilt damaged relationships of trust with K-12 leaders across Idaho
 - Unified statewide education community around a new accountability system

- Improved public understanding of a new statewide assessment system
- Liaised with federal, state, and local agencies and citizen groups

2012–2013

Policy Fellow – *International Assoc. for Online K-12 Learning, Washington, DC*

- Conducted research related to policy models and strategies for promoting and adopting OER in K-12 education systems
- Evaluated processes for collaborative development of OER
- Published and disseminated a national policy guide for states
- Published a guide on collaborative open content development

2012

Psychometrician – *Certification Management Services, Heber City, UT*

- Facilitated test development for multiple clients, including Western Governors University and private companies

FACULTY ROLES

Clinical Assistant Professor (current) – *College of Education, Health & Human Sciences, University of Idaho*

- Co-Teach Research Apprenticeship Course
- Teach Policy Development and Implementation Course

Adjunct – *College of Innovation and Design, Boise State University*

- Taught Principles of Leadership Course

Adjunct – *College of Arts and Sciences, Doane College*

- Taught Biology 101 Course and Lab

SERVICE & LEADERSHIP ROLES

2020 – Present

Chair (Delegated)

Council on Academic Affairs and Programs
Idaho State Board of Education

Chair (Delegated)

General Education Matriculation Committee
Idaho State Board of Education

2021

Member

Search Committee (Provost and Executive Vice President Position)
Idaho State University

2021

Member

Search Committee (Deputy Director Position)
Office of the Idaho State Board of Education

- 2020 **Member**
Search Committee (LEAD Faculty Position)
Boise State University
- 2016–2017 **Advisory Committee Member**
Expense Reporting Committee
The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation
- 2015–2017 **Committee Member**
Building an Inclusive Culture Committee
The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation
- 2013–2014 **Representative - State Department of Education**
Council on Academic Affairs and Programs
Idaho State Board of Education
- K-12 State Lead**
State of Idaho
Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium
- Design Team Member**
Northwest Rural School Improvement Network
Northwest Comprehensive Center of Education Northwest
- Community Member**
Internal Review Board (IRB)
Boise State University
- 2009–2010 **Chair**
Education Committee
Society of Nematologists
- 2009 **Member**
Faculty Search Committee (Professor of Practice Position)
School of Biological Sciences, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
- 2008–2009 **Director**
Outstanding Biology Teacher Award Program for Nebraska
National Association of Biology Teachers
- 2009 **Executive Chair**
Midwest Ecology and Evolution Conference (MEEC)
University of Nebraska-Lincoln
- 2008 **Founder**
Science Education Research Journal Club (ScERJ)
University of Nebraska-Lincoln

2006–2009 **Vice-Chair**
 Education Committee
Society of Nematologists

BOARD ROLES

Chapter Director – *BYU Alumni National Board*
 Board Member – *Regional Education Lab Northwest, Institute for Education Sciences*
 Advisory Board Chair – *Wiki Education Foundation*
 Partner – *Redfish Metrics, LLC*
 Board Member – *Stand Up Republic Foundation*
 Board Member and Chair – *BYU Alumni Boise Chapter*
 Advisory Board Member – *X5GON Project, European Commission*

FORMAL EDUCATION

Ph.D. Educational Inquiry, Measurement, and Evaluation
David O. McKay School of Education, Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah, U.S.A.
Dissertation: A model of digital textbook quality from the perspective of
 college students
Advisor: *Richard R. Sudweeks, Ph.D.*

M.Sc. Biological Sciences
School of Biological Sciences, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Nebraska, U.S.A.
Thesis: Diversity and community structure of nematodes under Switchgrass
 in native and cultivated systems
Advisors: *Chad E. Brassil, Ph.D. and Thomas O. Powers, Ph.D.*

B.Sc. Microbiology and Molecular Biology
College of Life Sciences, Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah, U.S.A.
Advisor: *Byron J. Adams, Ph.D.*

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & CERTIFICATIONS

Institute for Emerging Leadership in Online Learning Global, *OLC* (20 hours)
 Leading People and Teams Specialization, *Univ. of Michigan-Coursera* (20 hours)
 Influencing People, *University of Michigan-Coursera* (20 hours)
 Managing Talent, *University of Michigan-Coursera* (20 hours)
 Inspiring and Motivating Individuals, *University of Michigan-Coursera* (20 hours)
 The Art of Leadership, *Rockwood Leadership Institute* (70 hours)

HONORS AND AWARDS

Accomplished 40 Under 40, *Idaho Business Review*

Joe E. Covington Award, *National Association of Bar Examiners*

John M. Webster Award, *Society of Nematologists*

Best Paper Award, *Society of Nematologists*

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Open Education Group – Brigham Young University, Provo, UT

- Developed model of college student perceptions of the quality of open digital textbooks *With R. R. Sudweeks, Ph.D. and David Wiley, Ph.D.*
- Studied cost, outcomes, use, perceptions and policies related to open educational resources *With David A. Wiley, Ph.D.*

David O. McKay School of Education – Brigham Young University, Provo, UT

- Conducted item and rater analysis of Alberta Social Studies Diploma Exam using Many-facets Rasch analysis, Item Response Theory, and factor analysis *With R. R. Sudweeks, Ph.D and Holt Zaugg, Ph.D.*
- Conducted quantitative and qualitative research for Science Plus, a professional development program aimed at helping high school science teachers improve inquiry-based teaching *With Pamela Cantreall, Ph.D. and Leigh Smith, Ph.D.*

School of Biological Sciences – University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln, NE

- Implemented the principles of *Scientific Teaching* in a re-development of the recitation portion of BIOS 102, Introductory Biology for Majors *With T. Jack Morris, Ph.D. and R. L. Pardy, Ph.D.*
- Implemented the principles of *Scientific Teaching* in development of a laboratory module for BIOS 101L, Introductory Biology Laboratory for Non-Majors *With Jon Sandridge, Ph.D.*
- Analyzed nematode community structure in prairie and agricultural ecosystems *With Thomas O. Powers, Ph.D. and Chad Brassil, Ph.D.*
- Authored “Nematology” article on Wikipedia; <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nematology>

College of Life Sciences – Brigham Young University, Provo, UT

- Developed and field-tested a high school geared inquiry-based experimental laboratory module using insect parasitic nematodes (**Bliss et al. 2007**) *With Byron J. Adams, Ph.D. et al.*
- Performed statistical analysis of post-secondary science assessments and developed rubrics studying the cognitive processes involved in scientific reasoning, particularly the ability to draw conclusions from experimental data *With William S. Bradshaw, Ph.D. and John D. Bell, Ph.D.*

Walter Reed Army Institute of Research – Silver Spring, MD

- Refined fluorescent staining technique of the human malaria parasite in liver cells in preparation for micro-array analysis of post-infection cell-surface protein expression

- Dissected mosquitoes and purified malaria parasite for use in malaria vaccine research and development *With Ursula Kryzch, Ph.D.*

College of Life Sciences – Brigham Young University, Provo, UT

- Isolated and characterized a novel symbiotic, non-pathogenic mutant of a nematode-associated insect parasitic bacterium (**Bliss *et al.* 2006**)
- Analyzed relative rates of molecular evolution of several Antarctic nematode species and closely related taxa *With Byron J. Adams, Ph.D.*

PUBLICATIONS

- Lingwall, J. and **Bliss, T.** (2023) A Thousand Views of the Cathedral: The Law, Politics, and Statistics of Pandemic Dashboards. *Health Matrix*. 33 Health Matrix 393 (2023) Available at: <https://scholarlycommons.law.case.edu/healthmatrix/vol33/iss1/7>
- Bliss, T.** (2022). OER Degrees. Network of Open Orgs' Collaborative Project: Case studies that demonstrate the success of Open Educational Resources. Available at: <https://www.oerafrica.org/node/13635/materials>
- Bliss, T.** (2018). You should be a policy advocate. *The Political Librarian* 4 (1): art5. Available online at <https://openscholarship.wustl.edu/pollib/vol4/iss1/5>
- Contributing Author.** (2017) Ljubljana OER Action Plan. *2nd World Open Educational Resources (OER) Congress*. Available at <https://www.oercongress.org/woerc-actionplan/>
- Blessinger, P. and **Bliss, T.** (eds.), (2017) *Open Education: International Perspectives in Higher Education*. Cambridge, UK: Open Book Publishers. <http://dx.doi.org/10.11647/OBP.0103>.
- Bliss, T.,** & Smith, M. (2017). *A Brief History of Open Educational Resources*. In Jhangiani, R. S. and Biswas-Diener, R. (eds) *Open: The Philosophy and Practices that are Revolutionizing Education and Science*. London: Ubiquity Press. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5334/bbc>
- Bliss, T.,** and Patrick, S. (2013). *OER State Policy in K-12 Education: Benefits, Strategies, and Recommendations for Open Access, Open Sharing*. Report of the International Association for K-12 Online Learning. Published online on June 26 at http://www.inacol.org/cms/wp-content/uploads/2013/06/inacol_OER_Policy_Guide_v5_web.pdf
- Bliss, T.,** Tonks, D., & Patrick, S. (2013). *Open Educational Resources and Collaborative Content Development: A Practical Guide for State and School Leaders*. Report of the International Association for K-12 Online Learning. Published online on June 19 at http://www.inacol.org/cms/wp-content/uploads/2013/06/inacol_OER_Collaborative_Guide_v5_web.pdf
- Wiley, D., **Bliss, T.,** & McEwen, M. (2013). Open educational resources: A review of the literature. *Handbook of Research on Educational Communications & Technology* (4th ed.).

- Bliss, T.**, Hilton, J., Wiley, D., & Robinson, T. J. (2013). An OER COUP: Teacher and student perceptions of Open Educational Resources. *Journal of Interactive Media in Education, Spring Issue*. Published online at <http://jime.open.ac.uk/jime/article/view/2013-04>
- Bliss, T.**, Hilton, J., Wiley, D., & Thanos, K. (2013). College student and faculty perceptions of the cost and quality of open textbooks. *First Monday, 18* (1). Published online at <http://firstmonday.org/ojs/index.php/fm/article/view/3972>
- Bliss, T.**, Allen, D. S., & Sudweeks, R. R. (2012). *Statistical methods to detect cheating on tests: A review of the literature*. Manuscript commissioned by the National Conference of Bar Examiners.
- Hilton, J., Wiley, D., & **Bliss, T.** (2012). Cost savings, learning impacts, and user perceptions of open textbooks. *Proceedings of Cambridge 2012: Innovation and Impact – Openly Collaborating to Enhance Education*, OCW Consortium and SCORE, Cambridge, UK, April 16–18 2012, Milton Keynes, The Open University, pp. 86-95, <http://oro.open.ac.uk/33640/>
- Bliss, T.**, Powers, T. O., & Brassil, C. E. (2010). The spatial influence of aboveground diversity on belowground communities. *Ecosphere 1*(2/3): art7. doi:10.1890/ES10-00040.
- Wang, K. -H., Sipes, B. S., Schmitt, D. P., MacGuidwin, A. E., McKenry, M., **Bliss, T.**, Kerry, B. R., & Costa, S. (2008). Plant nematological contributions to phytopathology. *APSnet Feature Story*. Published online at <http://apsnet.org/online/feature/nematology/>
- Bliss, T.** (2007). New book examines future of SON by exploring the past. *Nematology Newsletter 53*:5. (Invited book review)
- Bliss, T.**, Dillman, A., R., Russell, R., Anderson, M. K., Yourick, D., Jett, M., & Adams, B. J. (2007). Nematodes: Model organisms in high school biology. *The Science Teacher 74*(7): 34-40.

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

- Bliss, T.**, Lahsley, J., Schwarz, T., Hope, E. (2023). Way to Go Idaho! Building Sustainable Statewide Academic Initiatives Through Open Education. *Open Education Global Conference*. Edmonton, AB. October 16.
- Bliss, T.**, Daugherty, L. (2023). Pop-Up Think Tank: How Should We Respond to Growing Public Opposition to Higher Education? *State Higher Education Executive Officers Annual Policy Meeting*. Denver, CO. August 8.
- Bliss, T.** (2022). The Role of Open Educational Resources (OER) in College Completion Efforts. *Complete College America Annual Convening*. Atlanta, GA. October 24. **Invited Presentation**
- Bliss, T.** (2022). Mentorship: A Key to Great Research (and Life). *Idaho Conference on Undergraduate Research*. Boise, ID. July 21. **Invited Keynote**

- Bliss, T.,** Lassner, D., and Jefferson, A. (2022) What's Up in the West: Academic Freedom in the Marketplace of Ideas. *Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education Annual Commission Meeting*. Grand Rapids, SD. May 16. **Plenary Panel**
- Bliss, T., et al.** (2019) Intro to the Education Space: Wikimedia and UN Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 4. *Wikimania*. Stockholm, Sweden. August 16. **Contributed Presentation**
- Bliss, T.** (2016). Closing Remarks. *Asia Regional Consultation for Open Educational Resources*. Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. **Invited Keynote.**
- Bliss, T.** (2016). An I-Frame for OER. *Open Education Conference*. Richmond, VA. November 4. **Invited Keynote Presentation**
- Bliss, T.,** Chow, B., Schmidt, D. (2016). Hewlett Strategy on OER. *Institute for Open Leadership*. Cape Town, South Africa. March 15. **Invited Presentation**
- Bliss, T.** (2015). OER in Higher Education. *Faculty Bootcamp*. California State University. Los Angeles, CA. August 6. **Invited Keynote**
- Bliss, T.** (2014). An Open Conversation about Open Educational Resources. *Meeting of Board of Directors of International Baccalaureate*. Vancouver, BC, Canada. August 1. **Invited Presentation**
- Bliss, T.** (2013). Common Core State Standards and CCSS-aligned assessments in Utah and Idaho. *Educational Inquiry, Measurement, and Evaluation Seminar*. Brigham Young University, Provo, UT. November 22. **Invited Presentation**
- Bliss, T.,** Redd, B., & Bruce, W. (2013). Readiness for 2014 Common Core assessments: Considerations for blended and online schools. *Blended and Online Learning Symposium, International Association for K-12 Online Learning*. Orlando, FL. October 28. **Invited Presentation**
- Bliss, T.** (2013) A model of digital textbook quality from the perspective of college students. *Educational Inquiry, Measurement, and Evaluation Seminar*. Brigham Young University, Provo, UT. January 11. **Invited Presentation**
- Bliss, T.,** Broughton, C., Hurley, T., Meadows, S., Morgan, G., & Wagner, E. (2012) Panel: Content for free-range learners. *WCET Conference*. San Antonio, TX. October 31 – November 3. **Invited Panelist**
- Bliss, T.,** (2012) A student measure of the quality of open digital textbooks. *Open Education Conference*. Vancouver, BC. October 16-18. **Contributed Paper**
- Bliss, T.** (2012) Introduction to open educational resources: Learning materials for all students. *Northern Rocky Mountain Education Research Association Annual Conference*. Park City, Utah. October 4-5. **Contributed Paper**
- Hilton, J., Wiley, D., & **Bliss, T.** (2012). Cost savings, learning impacts, and user perceptions of open textbooks. *OCWC12/OER12*. Cambridge, UK. April 17. **Contributed Paper**

- Bliss, T.** & Thompson, C. (2011). An introduction to IRTPro. *Educational Inquiry, Measurement, and Evaluation Seminar*. Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah. November 4. **Invited Presentation**
- Sudweeks, R. R., & **Bliss, T.** (2011). Using and interpreting Cronbach's Coefficient Alpha properly and avoiding misuse and misinterpretation. *Northern Rocky Mountain Education Research Association Annual Conference*. Jackson Hole, Wyoming. October 6-7. **Contributed Paper**
- Bliss, T.**, Smith, L., & Cantrell, P. (2011). Learning and teaching through science inquiry: Teachers' perceptions of change in their own practice. *Northern Rocky Mountain Education Research Association Annual Conference*. Jackson Hole, Wyoming. October 6-7. **Contributed Paper**
- Bliss, T.**, Cantrell, P., & Smith, L. (2010). Understanding the foundational modes of classroom-based inquiry. *Northern Rocky Mountain Education Research Association Annual Conference*. Big Sky, Montana. September 30 – October 1. **Contributed Paper**
- Bliss, T.**, Powers, T. O., & Brassil, C. E. (2010). The spatial influence of aboveground diversity on belowground communities. *Ecological Society of America Annual Meeting*. Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. August 1 – 6. **Contributed Paper**
- Bliss, T.**, Brassil, C. E., & Powers, T. O. (2010). Contrasting effects of aboveground plant diversity on belowground nematode community structure. *Annual Meeting of the Society of Nematologists*. Boise, Idaho. July 11 – 14. **Best Student Paper Award**
- Bliss, T.**, Brassil, C.E., & Powers, T. O. (2010). The structure of belowground nematode communities under switchgrass is impacted by aboveground plant diversity. *University of Nebraska-Lincoln Biological Graduate Student Association Annual Symposium*. March 26. Lincoln, Nebraska. **Best Poster Award**
- Bliss, T.** (2009). 'Scientific Teaching' in General Biology. *Issues in Math and Science Education Seminar*. University of Nebraska-Lincoln. October 15. Lincoln, Nebraska. **Contributed Presentation**
- Bliss, T.**, Brassil, C. E., & Powers, T. O. (2009). The structure of belowground nematode communities under *Panicum virgatum* (switchgrass) is impacted by aboveground plant diversity. *Ecological Society of America Annual Meeting*. August 2-7. Albuquerque, New Mexico. **Contributed Poster**
- Bliss, T.**, Brassil, C., Goodman, R., & Vavala, R. (2008). Science Education Research Journal (ScERJ) Clubs: Why you need one and how to get one going at your institution. *National Association of Biology Teachers Annual Meeting*. October 15-18. Memphis, TN. **Contributed Paper**
- Bliss, T.** (2008). Nematode/bacteria interactions: Inquiry-based studies in symbiosis. *American Society of Microbiologists Conference of Undergraduate Educators*. Beverly, MA. May 31 – June 1. **Invited Paper**
- Bliss, T.** (2007). Nematode biology: 1750 vs. 2008. 300 years of Nematology Symposium. *Annual Meeting of the Society of Nematologists*. San Diego, California. July 29-August 1. **Invited Paper**
- Bliss, T.** (2006). The exterminators: An inquiry-based high school laboratory using insecticidal nematodes. *National Association of Biology Teachers Annual Meeting*. October 11-14. **Contributed Poster**

- Bliss, T.**, Dillman, A. R., Anderson, M. K., Yourick, D., Jett, M. & Adams, B. J. (2006). Using entomopathogenic nematodes as model organisms in a high school education module. *Annual Meeting of the Society of Nematologists*. Kauai, Hawaii. June 16-19. **Contributed Paper**
- Bliss, T.**, Chaston, J. M., Blackburn, D., Bailey, G. C., Smith, A., & Adams, B. J. (2006). Development and description of a novel symbiotic, non-pathogenic mutant of the entomopathogenic bacterium *Photorhabdus luminescens*. *Annual Meeting of the Society of Nematologists*. Kauai, Hawaii. June 16-19. **Best Student Poster Award**
- Bliss, T.**, Anderson, M. K., Yourick, D., Jett, M., & Adams, B.J. (2006). Improving science education in America: The power of constructive laboratory modules. *Rocky Mountain Regional Meeting of the American Society of Microbiologists*. Provo, Utah. March 18. **Contributed Paper**
- Bliss, T.** (2005). Using entomopathogenic nematodes in a laboratory module. *Science and Engineering Apprenticeship Program Meeting*. National Academies of Science, Washington, D.C. August 12. **Contributed Poster**

MEDIA COVERAGE

- McKay Today News** (2018) [Alumni Spotlight: Impacting Individuals—TJ Bliss](#)
- Inside Higher Ed** (2016) [Openness by Default](#)
- EdSurge** (2016) - [Open Educational Practice: Unleashing the Potential of OER](#)
- Washington Post** (2015) – [College Courses without Textbooks? These Schools are Giving it a Shot](#)
- McKay News Today** (2015) - [McKay School Graduate Serves as Program Officer for Hewlett Foundation](#)
- Education Week** (2015) - [‘Open Educational Resources’ Promoted in U.S. Senate’s ESEA Draft](#)
- San Jose Mercury News** (2015) - [Goodbye Textbooks, Hello Free Online Resources](#)
- Hewlett Foundation Newsroom** (2014) - [TJ Bliss Joins Hewlett Foundation as PO](#)
- Idaho Education News** (2014) - [State’s Testing Chief to Leave](#)
- Idaho Press Tribune** (2013) – [K-12 Testing Expert Speaks on New Common Core-based Exam](#)
- Beyond the Book – Copyright Clearance Center** (2013) – [School Bell Rings for Common Core](#) (podcast)
- Idaho Education News** (2013) – [A Seat at the Table Gives Idaho SBAC Influence](#)
- Creative Libraries Utah** (2013) – [Open Educational Resources](#) (podcast)
- McKay Today News** (2012) – [EIME Student Makes a Mark in Open Education](#)
- McKay Today News** (2012) – [To Catch a Cheat](#)

HOBBIES & INTERESTS

Music (Piano, Voice, Organ, Cello)
 Literature (19th Century French, English, & Russian, Contemporary American, Sandra Boynton)
 Sports (Cycling, Tennis)
 The Serial Comma

LANGUAGES

Russian Fluency in writing, reading, and speaking

REFERENCES

Upon Request