The WWAMI Program is a cooperative program of the University of Washington School of Medicine (UW SOM) and the states of Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana and Idaho. The WWAMI program’s purpose is to provide access to publicly-supported medical education across the five-state region. Idaho WWAMI maintains offices at the University of Idaho Moscow and Boise campuses. WWAMI students complete their first 18 months of medical training at the University of Idaho’s Moscow campus during their Foundations Phase of education. After completing their Foundations Phase, students have the opportunity to complete the majority of their clinical training requirements within Idaho or anywhere in the five-state WWAMI region. Overall, a total of 105 students completed 153 required clerkships and 72 elective clerkships in Idaho. These clinical rotations are coordinated through the Idaho WWAMI office in Boise. Five students from each first-year class are accepted through a targeted admissions process for a rural/underserved workforce program known as TRUST (Targeted Rural Underserved Track), beginning with the entering 2016 class the program accepted six TRUST Scholars. The mission of the TRUST program is to provide a continuous connection between underserved Idaho communities, medical education, and health professionals with the goal of increasing the medical workforce in underserved Idaho communities. In addition to the required curriculum that all students complete, Idaho TRUST Scholars also participate in multiple clinical experiences at their TRUST sites. Idaho’s TRUST communities include Hailey, Jerome, McCall, Nampa, Orofino and Sandpoint. During the 2016 admissions season, a total of 164 applications from Idaho residents were received. A total of 78 were interviewed in Boise, of those interviewed 40 were admitted. The Idaho Admissions Committee, made up of practicing physicians from Idaho, conducted interviews in January and February in Boise. In 2016, the Idaho Legislative approved class expansion and the entering 2016 class was increased to forty students with six of those being TRUST Scholars. These students came from the following Idaho communities: Blackfoot, Boise, Coeur d’Alene, Cottonwood, Eagle, Emmett, Hailey, Idaho Falls, Ketchum, Kuna, Meridian, Middleton, Moscow, Mountain Home, Nampa, Pocatello, Post Falls, Rexburg, Rupert, Salmon, and Sandpoint. The average undergraduate GPA for the enrolled 2016 Idaho students is 3.67. WWAMI students may apply to residency programs across the country, including three family medicine residencies, an internal medicine residency, and a psychiatry residency in Idaho. The Idaho WWAMI medical education program is committed to helping prepare physicians for primary care and regional practice, and to increasing the number of physicians who choose to practice in rural or underserved areas.

Dr. Megan Dunay of the Boise VA Medical Center was also awarded the Idaho Track Teacher of the Year award during the 2015-2016 academic year. Dr. Dunay teaches 4th year students during their Chronic Care elective clerkship and is the clerkships based at the Boise VA Medical Center. Dr. Megan Dunay teaches 4th year students during the 2015-2016 academic year. Dr. Dunay teaches 4th year students during their Chronic Care elective clerkship and is the clerkships based at the Boise VA Medical Center. Dr. Megan Dunay teaches 4th year students during the 2015-2016 academic year. Dr. Dunay teaches 4th year students during their Chronic Care elective clerkship and is the clerkships based at the Boise VA Medical Center.
"RUOP showed me the impact that rural physicians can have on communities, and introduced me to the unique opportunities of small town medicine. I am very grateful to the WWAMI and University of Utah for providing me with the chance to learn medicine in Idaho." 

"Without a doubt, RUOP has been the highlight of my medical school experience...I’d like to thank Dr. David McCusky for not only taking the time to teach me anatomy, suturing, and clinical skills, but also for becoming my role model. You have inspired me to bring a personal touch to each patient interaction and to look beyond the clinic for ways to make an impact in my community like you have done."

"RUOP reminded me of the humanity in medicine. Although the physicians were often tired from the long hours and heavy responsibilities, they seemed content because they were caring for a community that they loved. I also learned that there is never a dull moment in rural medicine."