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Micron Technology Foundation Gift Will Help Make U-Idaho a Leader in Microelectronics Education & Research

MOSCOW, Idaho and BOISE, Idaho, April 10, 2014 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- The Micron Technology Foundation announced a \$1 million gift today to the University of Idaho to fund an endowed professorship in microelectronics in the College of Engineering. The gift from the Foundation will support UI's College of Engineering as it continues to enhance its position in microelectronics education and research.

"We are truly grateful for Micron's commitment and support of world-class faculty here at the University of Idaho," said President Chuck Staben. "Through their generosity and collaborative partnerships with UI, we are able to hire and retain the best and brightest faculty for our deserving students."

President Staben, College of Engineering Dean Larry Stauffer and Micron Vice President for Process Research and Development Naga Chandrasekaran met with industry leaders in Boise to announce the first gift of its kind for the Boise-based technology firm's foundation.

"One of the missions of the Micron Foundation is to help cultivate the next generation of scientists and engineers. The impressive work being done in UI's College of Engineering is helping accomplish this objective," said Micron CEO Mark Durcan. "We are pleased to be able to contribute to UI's microelectronics program as part of our support for STEM education in our state, country and around the world."

The Micron Foundation gift is unique in that it establishes the first fully-funded endowed professorship at the College of Engineering. An endowed professorship awards tenured faculty members who have notable achievements in research, teaching and outreach, and provides compensation and funds to support students, travel and other research costs. Earned interest on initial investment allow for the professorship to reside at the university in perpetuity. Dr. Fred Barlow, electrical engineering faculty member and Fellow of the International Microelectronics and Packaging Society, has been awarded the Micron professorship.

"Endowed faculty positions enable us to support very talented faculty who are leaders in teaching and research," said Larry Stauffer, Dean of the UI's College of Engineering. "They create a ripple effect, attracting other bright faculty and students. This is valuable for Idaho's economy."

The Micron Endowed Professor in Microelectronics will also head up the Next Generation Microelectronics (NGeM) Research Center in the College of Engineering. NGeM is a new interdisciplinary research center with faculty from electrical and computer engineering, mechanical engineering, materials engineering, computer science and mathematics. The mission of the center is to provide an environment for faculty and students to expand and develop the entire range of expertise associated with microelectronic chip design from applied mathematics to materials science and electronic packaging. NGeM's strategic goal is to educate undergraduate and graduate students with the skills and knowledge needed by today's industry, which makes the center's relationship with Micron that more valuable.

About the University of Idaho

The University of Idaho helps students to succeed and become leaders. Its land-grant mission furthers innovative scholarly and creative research to grow Idaho's economy and serve a statewide community. From its main campus in Moscow, Idaho, to 70 research and academic locations statewide, U-Idaho emphasizes real-world application as part of its student experience. U-Idaho combines the strength of a large university with the intimacy of small learning communities. It is home to the Vandals, and competes in the Western Athletic Conference. For information, visit www.uidaho.edu.

About Micron Foundation

The Micron Technology Foundation, Inc., a private, non-profit organization established in 1999 with a gift from Micron Technology, Inc., is committed to the advancement of education and local communities. The Micron Foundation partners with educators to spark a passion in youth for science, technology, engineering and math; engineers the future for students; and enriches the communities through strategic giving where team members live, work and volunteer. To learn more, visit

www.micron.com/foundation.

About Micron Technology

Micron Technology, Inc., (Nasdaq:MU) is a global leader in advanced semiconductor systems. Micron's broad portfolio of high-performance memory technologies—including DRAM, NAND and NOR Flash—is the basis for solid state drives, modules, multichip packages and other system solutions. Backed by more than 35 years of technology leadership, Micron's memory solutions enable the world's most innovative computing, consumer, enterprise storage, networking, mobile, embedded and automotive applications. Micron's common stock is traded on the NASDAQ under the MU symbol. To learn more about Micron Technology, Inc., visit www.micron.com.

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