Faculty Senate Talking Points, March 23, 2021

- Updates on visits to Faculty Senate: next week, Torrey Lawrence and Kim Salisbury will answer questions related to the new budget. Please attend the webinar this week and if your questions remain unanswered, bring them to Senate next week.

- It is time to think about replacing Senators whose terms are coming to an end. Please check with your college bylaws to start this process.

- COVID-19 update: Mandatory testing is underway. So far, we continue to see low rates of positive results. Great news about the vaccine. The North-Central Idaho Health District has allowed everyone above the age of 35 to receive the vaccine. No need to wait for a call – just sign up and go!

- Statement of Faculty Values: there was a general consensus to wait and make it an end-of-the-semester release with a broader scope – recent disturbing events go beyond the attack to the Capital, and include, for instance, racially motivated violence. It was noted that such statement is important for families in minority groups, who need to know that the U of I is a safe place for their children.

- Brandi Terwilliger addressed 4 main points: Flex work requests; COVID related leave; COVID related policy changes; possible benefit changes. Please send to Brandi or Barb any questions you might have on HR issues.

Important dates:

- Sabbatical applications for the 2022-2023 year are due March 31.

- Nominations for Honorary degrees for the December 2021 commencement are due April 15, 2021.

All Faculty Senate agendas (including attachments and supporting documents) and meeting minutes are made available on the new Senate webpage: https://www.uidaho.edu/governance

Remember to share this email with faculty and staff in your colleges!