Faculty Senate Talking Points, March 30, 2021

• Updates on visits to Faculty Senate: next week Chris Nomura will be visiting Senate with updates from the Office of Research and Economic Development. Please gather questions from your constituents and email them to Barb.

• 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. The names of new faculty senators should be submitted to the Faculty Secretary by Tuesday, 4/20. New senators will meet with this Senate on Tuesday, 4/27. If you have questions, don’t hesitate to reach out. Also, we will be looking for a new member of the Benefits Advisory Group. Please let us know if you are interested in serving on this committee.

• COVID-19 and vaccine update: out of 3,970 tests, 0.35% were positive. In Moscow and Latah County, the vaccine is available for anyone above 16 years of age. We are working with Gritman to ensure that all students can receive the vaccine before final exam week.

• Commencement: There will be six ceremonies, three on Saturday May 15 and three on Sunday May 16, at 9a.m., 1p.m., and 5p.m. on each day. Faculty are encouraged to participate. COVID-19 protocol will be observed (masks, distancing, no hand shaking). Visit the website below for more information. https://www.uidaho.edu/events/commencement/spring

• The largest part of the meeting was spent in a lively discussion with Torrey Lawrence and Kim Salisbury about the new budget model. The Provost and the Executive Director of Academic Planning and Budget took questions on the new budget model for Academic Affairs. The discussion centered around the impact of the metrics on different colleges, and how the inclusion of “targets” may address some concerns. Senators are encouraged to send unanswered or additional questions to the Provost or Senate Leadership. Please see the minutes of Faculty Senate Meeting #24 for a report of the discussion.

Important dates:
• The 2021 “University of Idaho Great Colleges to Work For Survey” will close Friday, April 2. We hope you all will participate.
• 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!