

## Faculty Senate Talking Points, January 26, 2021:

- Last week, an email was sent to all Senators listing the guests Senate Leadership plan to invite to Senate this spring. Please remember to reach out to your constituents to gather questions and input. It will inform and guide our conversations with our guests.
- Update on COVID-19:
  - Last week, 14 tests resulted positive out of 778 (1.8%). At this time, four students are in isolation and seven in our quarantine facilities.
  - We will plan for fall semester anticipating contingencies. Plans for after spring break should become more clear within the next two to three weeks.
  - Commencement plans: we are preparing multiple options. We'll know more in March.
  - The state of Idaho decided that university employees will not receive the vaccine at the same time as K-12 teachers. The university is talking about this with the State Board and Public Health.
- Finances:
  - Overall, enrollment is down by 3.5% with respect to Spring 2020, with graduate students being the largest declining group. On the other hand, some colleges have reported an increase in enrollment.
  - Furlough is over and no need for additional furlough is expected. State budget is being discussed this week –the news seems generally good.
  - Concerning federal funds: through the “Care Act Part 2,” the university has been allocated \$11.6M of which \$3.4M must go to students.
- The new budget model, to be applied in program prioritization for both academic and non-academic units, will be implemented July 1, 2021, but the transition will be gradual.

### Important dates:

- Confidential feedback on the performance of all administrators who hold faculty appointments and are direct reports to the Provost/EVP (department chairs, directors, deans, vice provosts, provost, etc.) can be submitted using the provided Qualtrics form by this Friday—Friday January 29—at 5:00pm.
- The deadline to request delay for promotion and/or tenure is March 14, 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!**

