Faculty Senate Talking Points, September 8, 2020:

- The option to exclude spring and summer teaching evaluations from any review process ends on September 15. Please remind your colleagues of this opportunity and fast-approaching deadline.

- Update on COVID-19 from Provost Lawrence: Surveillance testing has been moved up last week as a reaction to the increasing number of COVID-19 cases in Whitman County. We have started testing wastewater for evidence of Corona virus. Results from last Friday showed noticeable amount of COVID-19 in two dorm areas. Students who live in those areas will be tested. Our isolation protocol continues to work well. As the situation evolves, updates will be provided on a weekly basis.

- David Lee-Painter, chair of the COVID-19 Advisory Committee, gave a brief update on the committee’s progress. Please direct any questions to davidlp@uidaho.edu.

- FSH 6990 Communicable Disease Emergency Response: The discussion continued from the previous meeting. The Senators agreed on an amended version of the policy, which will be presented to the faculty for a vote at the first Fall faculty meeting. The purpose is to have a permanent policy to replace temporary FSH 6990 COVID-19 Emergency Response, which is about to expire.

- Senators are encouraged to use the “New Business” part of any future meeting to propose new ideas for later discussion. Let your Senator know if you have an issue which you like Senate to take on!

Important dates:

- The first University Faculty Meeting of the year will be held via Zoom on Wednesday, September 16 at 2:30pm. There will be a voting matter (FSH 6990), so please encourage faculty in your colleges to attend and help us reach a quorum.

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!