

Faculty Senate Talking Points, November 3, 2020:

- COVID-19 update: we had another week of improvement. We have currently zero students in isolation, no Greek Houses in quarantine, and six students in one of our campus quarantine facilities. We continue with surveillance testing and our positivity rate continues to go down, in contrast to what is happening around us.
- A reminder to check in with students to see how things are going for them. All instructional faculty were sent an email at the beginning of this week encouraging them to conduct a mid-semester check in with students in their courses. This email included a framework and questions developed by ASUI, the Teaching Committee, CETL, and the Provost's Office.
- The University of Idaho will lease its steam plant and utility system to a concessionaire as part of a public-private partnership (P3) that will allow investment in student access, success and research initiatives for the next 50 years. The 50-year lease and concession agreement with Sacyr Plenary Utility Partners Idaho LLC was approved by the Idaho State Board of Education on November 2. These funds are expected to generate \$6M annually for the university to invest in strategic initiatives. President Green and Vice President Foisy came to Senate to answer questions.
- The 2020-21 Senate Leadership has created a space to hold open conversations in the form of roundtables during Senate meetings. This week, Diane Kelly-Riley and Torrey Lawrence participated into a roundtable discussion about faculty workload. The goal is to look for solutions, generate ideas, propose policy changes or creation.

Important dates:

- Honorary degree nominations are due on November 16.
- 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!

