

### **Faculty Senate Talking Points, August 31, 2021, Meeting #3**

- Welcome to a new year of Senate activities!
- Faculty Senate Leadership has discussed the formation of a Senate Subcommittee to evaluate our current teaching evaluation system and make possible recommendations for changes. We will keep you informed.
- COVID update: The status of the mask mandate will be re-evaluated around September 20. We face added challenges from new state laws, which require that we work with SBOE. So far, we had only a few incidents related to mask wearing. To date, 2,256 students have registered for the vaccination incentive, as detailed in the memo from President Green and Provost Lawrence of August 30.
- \$107,000 were awarded to support 9 proposals submitted under the Vandal Ideas Project (VIP). All proposals presented great ideas to either increase enrollment or generate new revenue.
- There was a lively Learning Management System discussion. Generally, Senators reported that their constituents are in favor of a transition to Canvas. An informal vote among Senators indicated strong support for the move.
- **Important reminders:**
  - The first University Faculty Meeting of the 2021-22 year will be held on Wednesday September 8<sup>th</sup>, from 2:30-4:00 pm, in the Pitman Center Ballroom. Zoom option will also be available. The meeting will be followed by a reception outside of the Pitman Center.
  - Nominations for the Alumni Award for Excellence are open until Friday, September 17.

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!**