

### **Faculty Senate Talking Points, September 28, 2021, Meeting #7**

- Preferred names are available in the University's systems. Please remind your students and colleagues of this opportunity. Many thanks to all those who helped make this change, including the Registrar's office, the folks in ITS, CETL, as well as our faculty-led committee, Ubuntu!
- Next week, our new Vice Provost for Digital Learning, Ken Udas, will visit with Senate. We look forward to hearing about this new position and the University's plans to expand online and distance learning. Please reach out to your Senators and let them know what issues or concerns you would want to see addressed.
- The Ombuds Annual Report for 2020-21 is available on [the Ombuds' website](#).
- Vandal Fest'21 is a combination of traditional Homecoming activities, the ICCU Arena Grand Opening and the announcement of the university's launch into a focused fundraising campaign. Faculty, staff and students are invited and encouraged to [volunteer on Friday, Oct. 8, and Saturday, Oct. 9](#), to help us host our extended Vandal Family.
- The Q&A with the Provost included a discussion on how to best address problems with retention and attraction of staff.
- Future topics of interest identified by the Senators include:
  - Possible expansion of benefits to improve employee retention;
  - A conversation with HR Director Brandi Terwilliger on health care issues;
  - Campus climate and workplace improvements as informed by the results of the "Great Colleges to Work for" survey and the Ombuds report.
- **Important reminders:**

Sessions to meet with the finalists for the Director of Dual Credit position are scheduled for Thursday, September 30, Friday, October 1, and Monday, October 4.

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!**