

Faculty Senate Talking Points, October 5, 2021, Meeting #8

- Vice Provost for Digital Learning, Ken Udas, visited Senate for a preliminary conversation on the University's plans to expand online and distance learning. Those plans are in progress, and Vice Provost Udas expects to have more concrete information to share in a couple of weeks.
- Our colleague Dr. Shirley Luckhart is continuing a research project on malaria and ways to combat the transmission of malaria, which kills over 400,000 people per year. If you have type O+ blood, please consider volunteering as a blood donor to help support this important research on campus. If you are interested, you can contact Dr. Luckhart directly over email (sluckhart@uidaho.edu).
- COVID-related issues:
 - The university is focusing on vaccine incentive – \$8,000 have been spent in scholarships for students who turned in their vaccination card. More scholarships will be awarded.
 - Please encourage your students who tested positive for COVID to report their status to the Dean of Student so they can receive the support they need.
 - Faculty are not required to offer synchronous instruction via Zoom for students who cannot attend. Instructors are encouraged to do what they can (alternative assignments, sharing lecture notes or slides, etc..) to help students who must miss classes.
- **Important reminders:**
 - Midterm grades are important for student success. Please submit them by October 18.
 - The mandatory training must be completed by October 31.

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!