

Faculty Senate Talking Points, October 12, 2021, Meeting #9

- An independent group of faculty members reached out to Faculty Senate with an interest in investigating gender salary discrepancies at the University of Idaho. Senators interested in assisting with this project should email Russ Meeuf.
- The University Assessment and Accreditation Committee (UAAC) is looking for feedback from faculty and staff on the recent Student Learning Outcomes assessment process and academic Annual Program Review. Please email any feedback or questions: barbara@uidaho.edu.
- There was a lively discussion about the practice (now approved into policy) of requiring Teaching and Research Assistants to enroll as full-time students whether they have a 20 hours per week appointment or a 10 hours per week appointment. The motion from COGS, FSH 1565 H-2, was approved by Senate. However, Senate leadership suggested COGS to give more thought to the issues of financial hardship raised during the discussion.
- COVID-related issues:
 - The mask requirement has been extended to November 1.
 - The number of vaccinated students is approaching 4,000. The university is still providing financial incentive to get vaccinated.
- Q&A with Dan Ewart: Senate engaged in a conversation with Vice President for IT, Dan Ewart. Senators asked questions on a variety of ITS practices and reported problems they have encountered, for instance when purchasing software or equipment. Dan Ewart welcomes suggestions for improvement. Increased level of security in response to increased threats was also discussed.
- **Important reminders:**
 - Remember to submit midterm grades by October 18.
 - The mandatory training must be completed by October 31.
 - Nominations are open for U of I honorary degrees to be recognized at the Spring 2022 Commencement Ceremony. Submit completed nominations to provost@uidaho.edu by Monday, Nov. 15. The nomination instructions may be found in [FSH 4930](#). If you have questions, contact Commencement Committee Chair [Richard Nielsen](#).

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!