Past, Present, and Future from Lorinda

I would like to say Thank You to everyone for allowing me the opportunity to serve in a Faculty Association/Senate Leadership role for the past three years.

The first two years of my experience as Chair-Elect were active and challenging, considering the situations Leif and I faced together with you. This year, as Faculty Association/Senate Chair, it has intentionally been a year of mindful transition, adjustment, and self-maintenance. We, as faculty, along with the entire campus community, transitioned through the adjustment of administration, reorganization of divisions, and COVID-19. I felt it was important to not initiate additional projects, duties, or tasks. At the end the 20-21 school year, it became apparent we needed time to adjust and focus on items ranging from institutional preservation, to communication and expectations, to personal self-care. Through reflection, hard-work, and perseverance, these topics have been taken into consideration and improved.

It is my hope that faculty have capitalized on the opportunity for the improved giving and receiving of information and communication across campus. Opportunities have been created through several methods and venues. A couple of examples include, but are not limited to:

- Additional Senate meetings--one meeting for campus guests to inform the community of actions and opportunity; and a second meeting for Senators only to openly discuss policies or concerns.
- Faculty Chair serving on the President’s Cabinet for weekly meetings.
- Improved, updated, and maintained websites for Faculty Association/Senate members and Committees.
- Being respectful of time by using surveys and voting via Qualtrics instead of additional meetings.
- Open communication with the Faculty Chairs of all Idaho higher education institutions throughout the year.
- Monday Messages and Tuesdays at Two.

As this academic year comes to an end, I look forward to closing the reign of my leadership loop by carrying the Mace in the front of the three graduation processions, just as I carried it in front of the convocation procession in August. This has been a memorable journey for me, and I appreciate the opportunities to learn, grow, and lead, that you as faculty and colleagues have provided me. I would also like to thank administration for allowing the opportunity for adjustment and modification during this past year of maintenance and transition.

I am excited to welcome Sue Hasbrouck and Jenny Scott into the faculty leadership roles. I am confident you will give them the support and encouragement they will need in their future endeavors on the faculty’s behalf. Again, Thank You all for the past three years, and Cheers! to our future leaders.

Respectfully,

Lorinda L. Hughes