Dear Colleagues,

We're grateful that you and your loved ones are safe and well. With the end of the semester approaching, we are writing to offer a few timely reminders to faculty teaching undergraduates this term.

First, thank you for your tireless efforts to support undergraduate inside and outside of the classroom this semester. We hear students routinely express to us their appreciation for all the ways faculty have gone above and beyond to engage and support them in all platforms that they come to you for advice on myriad additional responsibilities outside of your teaching and we share the students' gratitude.

Of course, managing the stress of the compressed, unusual, and uniquely challenging semester has been difficult for all of us. As we approach the end of the term, we hope you find the information and reminders offered below to be helpful and timely.

Faculty, Mental Health, and Wellness

First and foremost, we encourage you to take time in the coming weeks to recharge and you should feel free to take advantage of Duke's mental health and wellness resources. We know that students have the support that they need.

As a reminder, classes are scheduled to take place on November 3rd, the Tuesday after the 2020 election. President Price's recent message noted that faculty have the flexibility to make alternate arrangements regarding coursework and scheduling, if you are comfortable, we recommend that you make those arrangements.

As you continue to interact with your students, please don't ever worry alone — we are in this together and are here to partner with you to help make sure our students feel pressure to achieve unprecedented success even in this uniquely challenging semester has been dicult for all of us. As we approach the end of the term, we hope you find the information and reminders offered below to be helpful and timely.

President's Office of Student Affairs, Vice President for Student Affairs, and the Office of Undergraduate Education

Given its condensed nature and limited opportunities for social connections, this semester presents a host of unique challenges for students. As such, we have developed a guide to managing stress that included mental health and wellness resources for undergraduates. We encourage you to share the guide with your students.

Additionally, given the uncertainty that remains about the timeframe of this election season, there is a distinct possibility that we will not know the election results on election day. This may create additional uncertainty for some students. Please do not forget that any voter eligible to vote in Durham County can vote at the Duke early voting site at the Karsh Alumni Center through 6 p.m. on November 3rd. Duke students can log on to the website above using the election season.

As always, if you are concerned about a particular student for any reason, preocupations, you can provide them with additional resources to help connect them with the resources they need. Many licensed counselors are available at no charge. Please don't ever worry alone — we are in this together, and are here to partner with you to help make sure our students have the support that they need.

2020 Election

While election day occurred on November 3rd, the stress of the moment recommends that we take time to support one another as we navigate the aftermath of this election season. There is a possibility that we will not know the election results on election day. This may create additional uncertainty for some students. Please do not forget that any voter eligible to vote in Durham County can vote at the Duke early voting site at the Karsh Alumni Center through 6 p.m. on November 3rd. Duke students can log on to the website above using the election season.

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