Dear Colleagues,

We hope 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 and resources.

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 connect with their support in all platforms. We are proud of your efforts as you juggle many additional responsibilities outside of your teaching and we share the students’ gratitude with you.

Of course, managing the stress of the compressed, uncertain, 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**

Given its complicated nature and limited opportunities for social connection, this semester presents a host of unique challenges for students and faculty alike. In light of this, we have created a webpage titled **Duke Reach** that included mental health and wellness resources for faculty, students, and staff. Duke Reach is a one-stop-shop that provides additional information on other Duke-sponsored resources available to support faculty wellness.

Other resources include:

- **Keep Learning**: First and foremost, we encourage you to take care of yourselves. We expect that many of our students feel pressure to achieve unprecedented success even in this truncated academic year. Please help them keep things in perspective. You can point them to COVID-related wellness strategies on [DukeReach](http://www.duke-reach.org).
- **Duke-sponsored resources**: As always, if you are concerned about a specific student for any reason, [DukeReach](http://www.duke-reach.org) can provide you with additional resources to help connect that student with whatever help they may need. From mental health support from a licensed counselor. There are two options: Blue Devils Care (available 24/7) and the [DUKE2020](http://www.duke2020.org) website which includes information for students, faculty and staff, as well as useful background videos, articles, and referrals to help resolve a range of personal, work, and family challenges.
- **Duke-sponsored resources**: The Office of Faculty Advancement resource page includes [sample course syllabi language](https://www.dukealumni.org/membership/) that included mental health and wellness resources for students. Please don't ever worry alone — we are in this together, and it is important that you feel supported. If you are comfortable, we would be happy to help connect students with whatever help they may need.
- **Other ways to support yourselves and your students in the upcoming weeks**. As a reminder, classes are scheduled to take place on November 3rd. President Price's recent message noted that faculty have the flexibility to make alternate arrangements regarding coursework and scheduling, if you are able. The [Karsh Alumni Center](https://www.dukealumni.org/karsh) is open to students to vote on election day.
- **Visit vote.duke.edu**: In just two clicks, students can select one of two types of special election ballots and then vote online while it is available. With this option, you have time to discuss with students in confidence with our judgment — or to discuss how things are going.
- **Visit Durham, NC 27709**.
- **Vice President for Student Affairs**: To schedule an on-line consultation with the Office of Student Mental Health and Wellness, please visit: [Duke University](https://www.duke.edu) and search DukeReach.

As a reminder, classes are scheduled to take place on November 3rd. President Price's recent message noted that faculty have the flexibility to make alternate arrangements regarding coursework and scheduling, if you are able. The [Karsh Alumni Center](https://www.dukealumni.org/karsh) is open to students to vote on election day.

**Vice President for Student Affairs**

Mary Pat McMahon

Vice President for Undergraduate Education

VPUE Gary Bennett

The **Office of Undergraduate Education**

With gratitude,

[Your Name]