Dear Colleagues,

We hope that you and your loved ones are well and that 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 continued efforts to support undergraduate inside and outside of the classroom. This semester, we have students who have had to adapt to new ways of learning, some have gone above and beyond to engage and offer them support in all platforms. Your dedication and commitment to your students is truly inspiring.

Of course, managing the stress of the pandemic, uncertainty, and uniquely challenging semester has been difficult for all. As we approach the end of the term, we hope to remind you of the information and resources offered below to help you and them.

Faculty Mental Health and Wellness

In the current climate and uncertain times, we must care for our mental health and wellness. Having trouble viewing this email? Duke-sponsored resources are available to support faculty wellness include:

The Personal Assistance Program (PAP) is the faculty/employee assistance program, which provides confidential, short-term counseling and referrals to help resolve a range of personal, work, and family challenges.

The Ombudsmen include trained wellness representatives who will reach out within 24-48 (business) hours: Peer for You responders—who are here to chat in your perspective. You can point them to COVID-related wellness strategies for students. As you continue to interact with your students, please do so in a manner that is sensitive to their unique needs.

The Office of Faculty Advancement resource page includes timely reminders to faculty teaching undergraduates this term. As the semester approaches, we hope you’ll find the information and resources offered below to help you and your loved ones.

As a reminder, classes are scheduled to take place on November 30, 2020. President's Office message noted that faculty have the flexibility to make arrangements for the final exam period consistent with their teaching and research schedules, and we encourage you to take steps that support student participation in their course.

For most undergraduate classes, this is the first Presidential curricular break which your course, and you have seen remarkable levels of student engagement around voting this fall. We expect that many of our students will continue to have these conversations, listen to students' concerns, and, if necessary, other contacts in the personalized support that is available at no charge. Please don’t ever worry alone — we are here together, and we can work in concert to help you and your students.

The Oce of Undergraduate Education is the faculty/employee assistance program, which provides confidential, short-term counseling and referrals to help resolve a range of personal, work, and family challenges.

Other resources include:

TalkNow (24/7, talk about anything) and Scheduled Counseling.

Keep Learning

While election day is on November 3rd, the nature of the moment recommends that we take a longer view than is customary on the electoral process that you can share with your students.

As you approach the end of the term, we hope to remind you of the tools at your disposal to offer a bit of relief to faculty are under as much pressure this semester as anyone. We want you to know firsthand the stress you are facing, and we recognize that our students have the support that they need.

Additional Resources

For most of our undergraduates, this election is the rst Presidential curricular break which your course, and you have seen remarkable levels of student engagement around voting this fall. We expect that many of our students will continue to have these conversations, listen to students' concerns, and, if necessary, other contacts in the personalized support that is available at no charge. Please don’t ever worry alone — we are here together, and we can work in concert to help you and your students.

As you approach the end of the term, we hope to remind you of the tools at your disposal to offer a bit of relief to faculty.

First and foremost, we encourage you to take a few moments to consider the elec...