Dear Colleagues,

Sincerely,

Gary Bennett
Vice Provost of Undergraduate Education
116 Allen Building
Duke University

As a reminder, classes are scheduled to take place on November 3, 2020. President Price’s recent message noted that faculty have the flexibility to make alternate arrangements regarding coursework and scheduling, if you are able. The Office of Undergraduate Education is working on a sample course calendar that includes the possibility of shortened lecture units, extended breaks between lecture units, and the end of the semester moving to online instruction in the event of another surge in COVID-19. We expect that many of the Duke-sponsored resources available to provide information to your students will continue to be offered. Please don’t ever worry alone — we are in this together, and we have resources to help you and your students to support each other during this critical time.

To help contextualize the 2020 election, and the importance of our students’ role as citizens, we encourage you to explore the resources linked below. You can also log in to the online platform at: https://duke.edu/vote. Votes are available to provide information to your students about where, when, and how to vote via a brief live presentation to your class.

As always, if you are concerned about a specific student for any reason, please don’t ever worry alone — we are in this together, and we have resources to help you to connect with the student with whatever help they may need, from mental health support from a licensed counselor. There are two types of trained wellness representatives who will reach out within 24-48 hours in response to a concern you may have identified. They are:

- DukeReach: In just two clicks, students can select one of two types of wellness representatives and will reach out with additional information and support. DukeReach is an anonymous, confidential platform to which you can refer students in confidence with zero judgment—no DukeReach training required.
- Two-Click to Connect: A convenient way for Duke students to receive no-cost mental health support from a licensed counselor. There are two options: TalkNow (24/7, talk about anything) and Scheduled Counseling.

In addition to these resources, please be mindful of the importance of mental health support from a licensed counselor. There are two types of trained wellness representatives who will reach out within 24-48 hours in response to a concern you may have identified. They are:

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Other resources include:

- Duke-sponsored resources available to support faculty wellness include:
  - Keep Learning: A website created with the goal of helping faculty and staff develop strategies to foster academic engagement, create connectedness, and foster a sense of well-being. Resources are available to help faculty and staff support each other, use of technology in education and work engagement. For faculty teaching undergraduates this term, we are providing timely reminders to faculty teaching undergraduates this term.
  - Student Mental Health and Wellness: The Office of Undergraduate Education resource page includes:
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    - Personal Assistance Service (PAS): A convenient way for Duke students to receive no-cost mental health support from a licensed counselor. There are two options: TalkNow (24/7, talk about anything) and Scheduled Counseling.
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