AA Spring Town Hall
(April 26, 2022)

Dr. Karen Appleby, Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Agenda

• COVID Update- Chris Owens
• OER - Jeremy Thomas and Cindy Hill
• Budget Update- Karen Appleby and Jen Steele
• CEC- Angie Dangerfield & Katie Thomas
• Program Health- Karen Appleby and Cindy Hill
• LMS Discussion- Blake Beck and Karen Appleby
• Distinguished and Outstanding Faculty- Karen
Welcome to Incoming Provost Dr. Valerie Martin-Conley
Review of Spring COVID Conditions To Date
This semester we saw the largest surge of reported COVID cases in a single week: **262**

This has been followed by the lowest number of reported cases since June of last year.

Graph prepared by: David Jenkins
At the peak of the Omicron surge there was >3X the number of reported COVID cases than was seen during the Delta surge.

The Omicron infection curve was much more condensed compared to that of Delta's.
Current COVID Conditions
COVID Conditions at ISU Over the Last 8-weeks

COVID cases have remained low across all campus locations since late February.

The last time our numbers were this low was June of last year.

Classroom disruptions related to COVID are also at an all-time low.
Current Conditions at Portneuf Medical Center

- Hospitalization and number of COVID patients in the intensive care unit (ICU) are the lowest they have been in months
- No COVID patients have required the use of ventilators for the last few weeks
- COVID-related emergency department (ED) visits remain low
COVID Forecast
COVID forecasting for more than a few weeks is difficult and not recommended by most infectious disease experts.

- Like the weather, the further out the forecast goes the more inaccurate it becomes.

That being said:
- New COVID hospital admissions are projected to stay relatively stable over the next few weeks.
- New COVID deaths are projected to continue to decline in the coming days.
COVID Wastewater Surveillance

- Wastewater surveillance as a surrogate marker of COVID activity is conducted at selected locations.

- Indicates if SARS-CoV-2 levels in wastewater are currently higher or lower than historical levels at the same site.

- 0% means levels are the lowest they have been at the site; 100% means levels are the highest they have been at the site.

Graph from CDC’s COVID-19: Wastewater Surveillance Site
https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#wastewater-surveillance
COVID Wastewater Surveillance (Continued)

- Some wastewater treatment sites in our region are beginning to show an uptick in the amount of SARS-CoV-2 virus being detected.
- Oregon has begun to see an increase in COVID cases over the last four weeks.
- This could indicate we will also see a rise in COVID cases in Idaho in the coming weeks.

Graph from CDC’s COVID-19: Wastewater Surveillance Site
https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#wastewater-surveillance
Historic COVID Trends: National

New reported cases

Pattern of surges and declines has emerged over the last few years

Graph from New York Times - Latest Map and Case Count
Historic COVID Trends: ISU

- ISU’s pattern of surges and declines have followed national trends
- Based on this we should expect to see an uptick in cases in the near future
- It is hard to predict the magnitude of the next surge we will see

Graph from Idaho State’s COVID-19 Dashboard
https://www.isu.edu/roaringback/covidcases/
Continuing to Protect Ourselves, Our Students, and the Community
Stay Up-To-Date On Your COVID Vaccines

- If you are 5 months out from your 2nd dose of the Moderna or Pfizer vaccines you are eligible for booster
- If you are 2 months out from the J&J vaccine, you are eligible for a booster with Moderna or Pfizer.
- Boosters help to counteract waning vaccine and natural immunity
- Vaccinations are available at nearly every pharmacy (including Bengal Pharmacy) and local Health Departments
COVID Impact on Incoming First-Year Students
1 out of every 3 students had poor mental health during the pandemic.

2 out of every 5 students felt emotional distress during the past year.

1 out of every 10 students attempted suicide during the past year.

Poor mental health and suicide attempts were less common among students who felt close to people at school.

http://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth
OER Update

- ISU Plan to be submitted to State Board in May
  - Purpose to increase “access and affordability”
  - Based on substantial committee work with multiple rounds of data gathering, feedback, and refinement

- Proposes 8 strategies, including:
  - Broad ongoing support for identification, adoption, and implementation of OER, especially in high-ROI courses
  - Ongoing faculty/admin conversations about OER values and opportunities, and challenges and concerns
  - Proposal-based funding for OER projects
  - Discussions of valuing OER efforts in review processes
  - Course material cost attributes in class schedule
FY2023 Final Budget

Fund Shift (appropriated positions)

Tuition and Fee Increases
Undergraduate Resident: 1.1% (student activity fees)
Undergraduate Non-Resident: 2.4%
Graduate Resident: 3.0%
Graduate Non-Resident: 3.0%
Professional Fees: Vary by program

Line Items
Nuclear Engineering: $550K 1x, $500K ongoing
Forensic Pathology: $900K 1x
FY2023 Budget Outlook

FY2022: $5.64M deficit (excluding COVID relief)

FY2023: $3.92M deficit

Revenue
Fund shift, fee increases, 1.75% enrollment increase, pre-COVID activity levels, unit updates

Expense
Final position list, 5% CEC, fringe rate increases, appropriated salary savings split, pre-COVID activity levels, unit updates, enrollment investments
Budget Update

- AA’s FY23 budget remained flat

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- In March, the Legislature approved GOV Little’s sponsored line item for $1M to enhance ISU and UI’s cooperative nuclear engineering programs on the Idaho Falls campus
CEC Update

● Jan 2022 - Present: HR/Finance developing market analysis for non-classified staff and faculty (new this year - have done previously for classified)

● March 2022
  ○ DHR/DFM published statewide CEC guidance for FY23 distribution ISU received direction from OSBE for higher ed
  ○ Legislature approved ISU budget based on 5% total (structure ATB + merit/market)

● Present - HR/Finance currently working with departments to ensure individuals are accurately slotted for market comparison, and building CEC models

● Next couple weeks - Submit plan and wait for DHR/DFM approval*

● Mid-May - CEC campus communication and individual employee letters
CEC Implementation Dates

- Effective Dates for CEC Actions
  - Classified Staff - June 12
  - Non-Classified Staff (12-month) and Faculty (12-month) - June 26
  - Faculty (9, 10, 11 month contract starting Aug. 14) - July 24
Program Health Update

• State Board requires an annual update on Program Health (AKA Program Prioritization by the SBOE)

• Programs in bottom 2 quintiles provided updated Action Plans in November, 2021

• 22 Non-Instructional Programs also reviewed

• SBOE Report due June SBOE Meeting

• Incoming Provost Martin-Conley will provide guidance on next steps
LMS Discussion

- 10+ years since any formal assessment of LMS
- Evaluating Moodle and Canvas
- Please complete the survey instrument by May 6
- Making a Recommendation by November 22
- Contact LMS committee representatives with input or questions

Survey Link: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScp7CxqrtMC
Distinguished & Outstanding Faculty

Distinguished Researcher Award

Thom Hasenpflug
Department of Music, School of Performing Arts, College of Arts & Letters

Outstanding Researcher Finalists

Dr. Arunima Datta, Assistant Professor, Department of History

Dr. Courtney Jenkins, Assistant Professor, Department of Chemistry

Dr. Mary Nies, Professor, School of Nursing

Dr. Ellen Rogo, Professor and Associate Dean of Curriculum & Assessment, Department of Dental Hygiene
Distinguished & Outstanding Faculty

2021-2022 Outstanding Service Finalists

Dr. Zackery Heern, Associate Professor and Chair, Departments of History

Dr. Ryan Lindsay, Associate Professor and Chair, Department of Community & Public Health

Dr. Dani Moffit, Associate Professor and Program Director, Department of Human Performance & Sport Studies

Dr. Renee Robinson, Associate Professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice & Administrative Sciences

Distinguished Service Award

Dave Martin
Department of Physician Assistant Studies, College of Health
Distinguished Faculty

2021-2022 Outstanding Master Teacher Finalists

Dr. Paul Bodily, Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Science

Jennifer Briggs, Instructor, Practical Nursing, Department of Health Occupations

Dr. Anna Grinath, Assistant Professor, Department of Biological Sciences

Dr. David Lawrimore, Assistant Professor, Department of English

Distinguished Teacher Award

Nancy Devine
Department of Physical & Occupational Therapy, College of Health
DISCUSSION AND QUESTIONS