DATE: April 7, 2020

TO: Provost’s Council
Academic Department Chairs
Jonathan Sturm, President, Faculty Senate
Amy Ward, President, P&S Council
Heimir Geirsson, ISU AAUP Chapter

FROM: Dawn Bratsch-Prince, Associate Provost for Faculty

RE: Spring 2020 Course Evaluations and Additional Student Surveys

I am writing to follow-up with additional guidance on Spring 2020 end-of-semester course evaluations. As Provost Wickert stated in his April 1 email to faculty, course evaluations will be conducted in Spring 2020 using a modified survey, and the feedback received from students “will not be included in annual evaluations or reviews for advancement, promotion and tenure, or post-tenure review,” unless a faculty member chooses to include this information. The course evaluation process will provide students with some closure on an unusual semester and allow them to share feedback with their instructor on their learning experience. The feedback will help instructors identify what was, and what wasn’t, effective in this semester’s courses from the student perspective.

A university-wide course evaluation survey (eight questions) has been developed with input from the Faculty Senate Executive Board, FDAR Council, Chairs Cabinet, ISU AAUP Chapter, and Associate Deans. This modified survey, available in Class Climate, will be used for all courses offered in spring 2020. Colleges, departments or instructors who find it necessary to add supplemental questions for accreditation or another critical need may do so, but the number of additional questions should be limited. Department chairs should communicate now with their departmental course evaluation administrators so that they can begin preparing for survey implementation.

I also want to make you aware of two additional student surveys that are being administered this week in order to gather information on our students’ experience during this virtual second half of the semester:

- Iowa State Student Technology Survey was distributed by Information Technology Services (ITS) via email on Monday April 6 to all currently enrolled ISU students. The survey seeks to understand the technological issues students are facing and to reach out to assist them. The survey is anonymous, however students are able to provide their name and contact information if they want assistance resolving specific IT-related issues. The survey will remain open until mid-May. ITS is responsible for responding to individual students who raise issues as well as for connecting with college and department IT staff as needed. Contact Mike Lohrbach (mlbach@iastate.edu) with questions.
- **ISU Student Pulse Survey** is being distributed by the Office of Institutional Research on Wednesday April 8 via Canvas to a sample of 8,000 currently enrolled students (proportional by college). The anonymous survey will close Sunday, April 12. The survey aims to gather information on student well-being and connection to resources. The survey includes several college-specific questions. Analysis of the data gathered will be distributed to administrators and colleges by April 15. Contact Amanda DeGraff (adegraff@iastate.edu) or Matt Pistilli (pistilli@iastate.edu) with questions.

Students will be able to access their end-of-semester course evaluations later in April and through the end of the semester. Technical questions related to implementation of course evaluations can be directed to the IT Solution Center via email: solution@iastate.edu or phone: 515-294-4000.

I appreciate your collaboration and support throughout this process. Please feel free to contact me at deprince@iastate.edu with any questions you may have.