Colleagues,

As our first week of the temporary new normal winds down, I wanted to check in with you and share a few updates. Hopefully, you are reading all messages from Joan and Phil - if not, please do.

I have heard stories from Tim and Lee (who have been on campus with several of the members of the College's leadership team this week) about how faculty are adjusting to moving courses online. Being away from our students and from each other is really foreign, and I want to thank all of you for hanging in there and doing your best. Like many of us, our students are worried about their families and loved ones...and a number of them have lost their jobs in the restaurant, tourism, and entertainment industries. There is a lot of uncertainty in the air. So, please continue to treat them with compassion and kindness - we all need that right now.

Some of you may have seen the story regarding a petition by students to offer the option of taking courses on a pass/fail basis. That request is currently being considered by the Faculty Executive Committee, and it will be taken up by the Associate Deans next week. There are a lot of concerns and potential implications that need to be considered, but we will keep you posted as a resolution is reached.

It's a beautiful Spring day. I hope you take a moment to enjoy the sights and smells...and, if you are like me and have allergies to pollen, just know that I am sniffling right along with you. As all things, this too shall pass.

Please let me know if there is anything we can do to support you.

Regards-

Jennifer