



## March 2018 Newsletter to Department Heads and Chairs

Vice Provost Rebecca Ropers <vpfaa@umn.edu>

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### Vice Provost for Faculty and Academic Affairs

March 22, 2018

Dear Colleagues:

I look forward to seeing many of you as we enter the season of awards and celebrations. Today, I write to share with you a few opportunities and reminders and to make a request for your feedback.

**You are invited to join Provost Hanson and me for lunch on Tuesday, April 10, 12:00 - 1:30 p.m. in room 237 Morrill Hall** to discuss challenges and opportunities at the University. If you haven't already, please register [here](#) for this event or the May 15 lunch hosted in St. Paul.

**Each college has received a [memo](#) outlining Provost Hanson's expectations for an ongoing review of faculty salary equity.** If you have any questions about how your college is implementing this process, please contact your dean's office. Additional background information about the salary equity review process is available [here](#).

**Please remember to conduct promotional reviews for your associate professors every four years.** The purpose of these reviews is to ensure that associate professors are getting the information they need to successfully move toward promotion to full professor. While units establish their own timeline and processes, all are expected to ensure that, at least every four years, associate professors receive feedback in preparation for a formal department consideration for promotion. Please use [Form 13](#) to document these reviews and communicate with your dean's office about your processes.

**I have learned that many departments are seeking to strengthen the mentoring and support of mid-career faculty.** As we develop resources, I would welcome learning more about your particular needs and whether you have any processes in place that you would be willing to share with others. I also encourage you to remind your faculty to sign up for and explore the free resources available through the [National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity \(NCFDD\)](#). NCFDD provides professional development and mentoring related to issues that faculty face throughout their careers.

**Finally, I want to make sure you know about the 2018 [Student Experience in the Research University \(SERU\) survey](#)** that will be administered to all undergraduates between March 19, 2018 and June 1, 2018. The survey is an opportunity for you to get valuable information about how students in your programs are experiencing the university. Please encourage your students to participate at [seru.umn.edu](#). The results of the 2017 SERU survey can be found [here](#). You may contact [Krista Soria](#) for promotional resources or if you need assistance viewing SERU results for your program.

Thank you for your ongoing service and leadership in the institution.

Best wishes,

Rebecca

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