TO: Boston University Faculty
FROM: Jean Morrison, University Provost and Chief Academic Officer
DATE: December 2, 2021
SUBJECT: Conclusion of Automatic Preservation of Zoom Class Session Recordings by IS&T

Last year, I informed faculty that the University would be instituting automatic preservation of recordings of classes delivered through Zoom, from the spring 2020, summer 2020, and fall 2020 semesters. This need to preserve recordings of classes delivered through Zoom came in response to five class action lawsuits filed by BU students seeking the return of tuition payments for the spring 2020 semester. I am writing today to announce that the University no longer needs to automatically retain recordings of classes delivered through Zoom from any time after June 1, 2020. Because the lawsuits are ongoing, at this time there remains a need to retain recorded materials from the spring 2020 semester.

Beginning Sunday, December 26, 2021, unless requested otherwise, IS&T will begin to delete all Zoom class recordings that were recorded after June 1, 2020 and that are at least 180 days old. If you would like to retain Zoom class recordings, instructions for downloading cloud recordings can be found on the IS&T website. Any additional technical questions about preserving recordings can be directed to ithelp@bu.edu.

In addition, please note that, moving forward, any review by University personnel of recordings of class sessions that are stored on platforms that are in the University’s control (such as Blackboard, the Zoom Cloud, or Echo Lecture Capture) will be handled in accordance with the protocols applicable to “user information” as set forth in BU’s Access to Electronic Information Policy.

Thank you for your continued flexibility, innovation, and dedication to the education of our students. I wish you continued health and a successful close to the fall semester.

Cc: University Leadership Group