

February 9, 2009

Fellow Faculty Senators:

Two and a half years ago, a Faculty Senate ad hoc committee was tasked with the development of a revised Student Perception of Instruction (SPoI). This was an outgrowth of a study by a faculty committee examining academic rigor. This study identified the important role the SPoI played in faculty evaluation as well as the deficiencies of the current form and process.

The ad hoc committee solicited input from members of the Faculty Senate about how the SPoI form and process needed to be modified. Multiple tools used at other universities were also reviewed.

As the committee's work progressed, it received feedback via the Faculty Senate from both senators and faculty in the colleges and units. In addition, draft versions of the SPoI questions were reviewed by members of the Student Government Association. Students also participated in a focus group in which every item was reviewed for clarity and validity after students completed draft versions of the revised SPoI question sets.

The SPoI question sets (presented in an electronic delivery format for convenience) were piloted by faculty in four colleges (CAH, CON, CoE, COS). The twelve faculty who participated in this pilot had one or more sections of their classes complete the draft SPoI. The resulting data were from graduate and undergraduate programs, upper and lower division courses and web, web mediated, and face-to face delivery modalities. In addition, students in this SPoI pilot provided feedback about the clarity of the items and ease of use of the new format.

Further revisions were made to the SPoI drafts based on this extensive input. Three proposed versions are presented for your review and, we hope, approval:

- SPoI for face to face or ITV classes; **and**
- SPoI for web mediated classes (M classes); and
- SPoI for fully web-based classes (W classes).

SPoIs for newly developed course delivery modalities such as those used by CBA and CECS (e.g. video on demand) are in their final edits. Sections 1 and 3 will be the same with modifications in Section 2 to reflect the specific course delivery modality.

Please note that students would complete only the SPoI version which reflects the mode of delivery of their particular class section.

The committee is also proposing an analysis process which will go beyond raw student response data. This analysis would correlate the student information in Section One with the course delivery and faculty evaluation responses in Sections Two and Three. This is expected to put student responses in context. For example, responses from students who prefer web-based teaching but were in a face-to face class could be analyzed separately from responses of those who prefer face-to-face classes. And responses of students who choose a particular faculty member could be examined separately from those who did not or could not make such a choice.

The fourth document attached is a proposed optional Faculty Perception of Instruction (FPoI) form. The FPoI is designed for faculty to use at the end of each semester to document characteristics of particular course offerings. This form is intended for the personal use of the faculty who would have the option of providing it to their chair during the evaluation process.

The SPoI ad hoc committee looks forward to receiving your feedback so needed revisions of the SPoI can be completed?

SPoI Ad Hoc Committee

Diane Wink, Chair

Tace Crouse

Richard Harrison

Bernadette Jungblut

Charlene Stinard