

Background to the Proposed Revisions of Student Perception of Instruction Forms: Brief Summary

by Ida Cook, Chair, Faculty Senate

On behalf of the Faculty Senate, I would like to acknowledge the efforts of all of the faculty members who volunteered and contributed to the process of addressing faculty performance and evaluation over the past five years. Their names are provided at the end of this note.

Originally the effort to examine the evaluation of faculty teaching performance began with a group of faculty that worked together during the 2005 Summer Faculty Development Conference. Later the Academic Rigor Work Group (ARWG) was formed to further develop information about faculty evaluations. Around the same time, another committee was formed by Faculty Affairs to look at the possibility of online delivery of SPOI. In spring 2006, the Faculty Senate Steering Committee recommended that the two groups work together as an ad hoc committee of the Steering Committee.

In an August 2007 progress report, the ad hoc committee informed the Senate that they had created versions of the SPoI for the three types of course delivery: Face-to-face and ITV; web mediated; and fully web-based. The committee planned to obtain IRB approval to pilot test the forms in fall 2007 in classes taught by 200+ award winning faculty members. Twelve professors participated in the fall 2007 pilot, and the committee subsequently reported that they hoped to have a more random sample in spring term 2008.

In September 2009, the committee presented its recommended changes, including that the SPoI form have three sections dealing with 1) student information, 2) delivery mode, and 3) course/faculty evaluation. Different modes of analysis were also suggested. The Faculty Senate voted to receive the report and thanked the subcommittee for its long and dedicated service.

After the delivery of the proposed revisions, the Office of Academic Affairs agreed to provide funding for an outside consultant to review and comment on the proposed SPoI revisions. Upon recommendation by representatives of the Educational Testing Service, Academic Affairs contracted with Dr. John Centra, Professor, Syracuse University, whose professional career includes extensive study and professional publications in support of improving faculty performance, evaluation, and performance assessment. Dr. Centra completed his work in December 2010.

We will begin discussion of the proposed SPOI at the February 17 Faculty Senate meeting. The following items are attached for your review:

1. Summary of Consultant's Recommendations
2. Draft – Track Changes SPoI- that uses the F2F, ITV version (with additional questions for other modes) along with the consultant's suggestions for improvement.
3. Draft – Final version of the SPOI with all changes and comments hidden.

Faculty participants who worked with different groups, committees and subcommittees on Student Perception of Instruction:

2005 Summer Faculty Development Conference workshop:

Pat Anglely, Steve Berman, Barbara Fritzsche, Bill Gaudelli, Linda Goddard, Maria Gonzalez, Tony Grajeda, Anna Jones, Bernadette Jungblut, Frank Kujawa, Maria Lavooy, Barbara Moore; Bob Potter, Craig Saper, Meg Scharf, Charlene Stinard, Diane Wink.

2005 Academic Rigor Working Group (ARWG):

Tace Crouse, Richard Harrison, Bernadette Jungblut, Paula Krist, Pat Lancey, Alison Morrison-Shetlar, John Schell, Charlene Stinard, Diane Wink.

2006-2010 ad hoc Faculty Senate subcommittee on Revisions to the Student Perception of Instruction:

Diane Alvarez, Mason Cash, Tace Crouse, Richard Harrison, Lin Huff-Corzine, Bernadette Jungblut, Mark Kamrath, Jeff Kaplan, Charles Negy, Charlene Stinard, Dawn Trouard, Diane Wink.