Resolution 2018-2019-12 Student Perception of Instruction (SPoI) Accessibility and Improvements

Whereas, The Student Perception of Instruction (SPoI) survey is primarily used to provide feedback to faculty in order to continually improve courses and teaching methods and is the primary data used by administrators to evaluate faculty teaching; and

Whereas, the revised online SPoI survey was approved by the Faculty Senate and Provost Waldrop in 2012. In 2013, the Faculty Senate approved publishing the average responses for all nine questions on the university website; and

Whereas, in 2017 and 2018, the Student Government Association made several requests to make the SPoI data available in a transparent manner and in a format easier to locate course and instructor information with information to make the data understandable; and to allow students the possibility to affect, reflect upon, and take responsibility for their own learning while providing important information for course enhancements; and

Whereas, many faculty believe the SPoI data does not relate to learning, is subjected to bias, and is provided to students without context which can skew a student’s impression of a course; and

Whereas, many faculty believe the SPoI data contains data errors due to multiple instructors or teaching assistants, and due to other faculty members teaching a course designed by a different faculty member; therefore

Be it resolved that the Faculty Senate recommends the administration carry out the following:

1. Short-Term
   a. Make the SPoI results easily accessible to students and faculty on myUCF.
   b. Provide students with information to interpret the data and a disclaimer regarding bias.
   c. Pilot making the evaluations optional to complete with active reminders.
   d. Add a link to the email sent to students to the SPoI results so students have a purpose to complete the survey.

2. Long-Term
   a. Form a Task Force to include the Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning, students from SGA, administration, Center for Distributed Learning, faculty senators, and faculty to review questions, validity, recommend better methods to evaluate teaching, and define the role of SPoI in the evaluation.
   b. Purchase a software package to easily capture and report SPoI data.

Approved by the Faculty Senate Steering Committee on February 7, 2019.
Approved by the Faculty Senate on February 21, 2019.