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Not Approved by the Faculty Senate: 3/6/2017

Adoption of a new Student Ratings of Instruction measure

Submitted by: Trent Maurer

2/17/2017

Motion:

The ad hoc Committee on Student Ratings of Instruction moves to adopt the proposed new Student Ratings of Instruction measure (attached) to replace the version currently in use. The new measure would be approved for use beginning in the Fall 2017 semester and extending no later than the Summer 2027 term. Unless the Faculty Senate takes prior relevant action before the end of that ten year period, at the beginning of the Fall 2027 semester the Faculty Senate will revisit the issue and may either vote to extend approval of the measure to another date not more than 10 years in the future, or vote to temporarily extend approval of the measure and appoint a new ad hoc committee to investigate revising or replacing the measure.

Rationale:

The ad hoc Committee on Student Ratings of Instruction was charged to develop, pilot test, revise, and propose to the Faculty Senate a new Student Ratings of Instruction measure. The attached measure represents best practices in the published research literature on Student Ratings of Instruction, is consistent with Board of Regents guidelines that Student Ratings of Instruction should be used primarily to inform and improve teaching effectiveness, the end goal of which is student learning, and is focused on student learning, learning behaviors, and formative feedback, as the Committee was charged to create. For a more detailed rationale in support of the new measure, see Section II: Background, and Section VII: Recommendations in the Final Report of the ad hoc Committee.

On behalf of the ad hoc Committee on Student Ratings of Instruction: Trent W. Maurer, Nan LoBue, Eudiah Ochieng, and Cordelia Zinskie

Response:

2/24/2017: The SEC, while expressing reservations about this motion voted to put the motion on the agenda for the March 6, 2017 meeting

3/6/2017: ad hoc Committee on Student Ratings of Instruction motion to adopt new Student Ratings of Instruction instrument

Lisa Abbott (CLASS) said that given the current circumstances with consolidation, it would be unfair to our future colleagues at Armstrong and Liberty to introduce any kind of instrument without their input. She opposed the motion.

Marc Cyr (CLASS) noted that the motion had not been seconded. Moderator Flynn said he had been trying to get the motion properly presented. It was duly Moved and Seconded. Abbott said her point remained.

Jim LoBue (COSM) asked Trent Maurer if the proposed instrument was essentially the same that was tested except for the removal of some components.

Maurer said the old Section 1 of the SLOs had been removed. There was one addition, a new third open-ended question specifically about student learning because they had removed all of the questions about SLOs.

Moderator Flynn noted that the new question was, "What is the one important thing you learned in this course?" Maurer said that was correct. Flynn said that was actually two questions. Maurer said, "Fair enough."

Janice Steirn (CLASS) said because of consolidation we would only use this instrument for a short period of time, and she thought to use it for 18 months then switch to a new one would cause a lot of confusion. She opposed the motion.

A hand-count vote showed 3 in favor of the motion, 33 opposed. The motion failed.

Attachment:

Proposed New SRI Measure