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TO: Dr. Richard Flynn, Chair, Senate Executive Committee

FROM: Jaimie Hebert, Ph.D., President 

DATE: April 5, 2017

SUBJECT: **April 3, 2017, Faculty Senate Recommendation**
Inclusion of Senate Vote on proposed SRI with final SRI report

I am pleased to report that the Senate recommends approval of the motion presented by the Senate Executive Committee at the April 3, 2017, Senate meeting.

Motion:

The Faculty Senate of Georgia Southern University moves that the final senate vote on the adoption of the proposed Student Ratings of Instruction (SRI) and the minutes of the Senate meeting of March 6, 2017, at which the final report was discussed be included along with the final report of the ad hoc Committee on SRI that previously was voted to be forwarded to the appropriate Operational Working Group.

Rationale:

Recognizing the hard work of the ad hoc Committee on Student Ratings of Instruction (SRI), at the March meeting, the Faculty Senate voted to forward the ad hoc committee's final report to the appropriate Operational Working Group (OWG) for informational purposes. Based on the ad hoc committee's research, this report included three recommendations: adoption of the proposed SRI, changes to the faculty handbook regarding faculty evaluations and use of SRIs, as well as exploring the possibility of centralizing the SRI process. The senate voted down the first of these recommendations, but no vote was taken on recommendations two and three. When the senate voted to forward the report, there was not an option to forward the report AND include results of the senate vote on the first recommendation. Although the report is being forwarded for informational purposes only, this information seems incomplete without including this important senate vote. In Dr. Mauer's presentation of the ad hoc committee's final report, he noted one of Dr. Bartel's original goals was faculty input regarding the creation and adoption of a new SRI instrument. Not including the results of the senate vote on the first recommendation violates the spirit of the original mission. As is, anyone reading the final report has no way of knowing faculty thoughts on the committee's recommendations. Despite this information being unknown

in regards to recommendations two and three, this is information we have regarding the first recommendation. Furthermore, as is, there is no reason for members of the OWG to distinguish between the three recommendations. This is problematic given that one of those recommendations was voted down. Although there is no way of knowing senate preferences regarding the other recommendations, reporting vote results regarding the committee's first recommendation, sends a clearer message that support for recommendations two and three is unknown, thus reminding OWG members the report they are reading is only informational and not an endorsement.

gm

c: Dr. Jean Bartels
Ms. Candace Griffith