

Utah State University

DigitalCommons@USU

Faculty Evaluation Committee

Faculty Senate

9-15-2009

Faculty Evaluation Committee Minutes, September 15, 2009

Utah State University

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.usu.edu/fs_faceval

Recommended Citation

Utah State University, "Faculty Evaluation Committee Minutes, September 15, 2009" (2009). *Faculty Evaluation Committee*. Paper 51.

https://digitalcommons.usu.edu/fs_faceval/51

This Minutes is brought to you for free and open access by the Faculty Senate at DigitalCommons@USU. It has been accepted for inclusion in Faculty Evaluation Committee by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@USU. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@usu.edu.



Faculty Evaluation Committee Minutes

September 15, 2009

In attendance: Greg Podgorski, chair; Doran Baker, Tyler Haws, Paul Jakus, Yanghee Kim, Michael Lyons, Pamela Martin, Nancy Mesner, Craig Petersen (ex-officio), and Joan Kleinke (ex-officio). Ed Heath, Faculty Senate President observed most of the meeting.

The objective of the first meeting of the FEC for the 2009 – 2010 academic year was to discuss courses in which to pilot the IDEA ratings instrument and to discuss criteria to be used in deciding if the IDEA rating instrument is a valuable course ratings instrument and fit for USU.

The meeting opened with a discussion of whether to pilot both the short and long forms of the IDEA rating instrument. The Committee decided to test only the long form because only this form provides useful information for the improvement of teaching.

A discussion then commenced on the types of classes needed for pilot test groups. A point was raised that it may be best to determine the criteria for evaluating the IDEA instrument before choosing classes. The chair person expressed concern over the discussion getting bogged down to the point that no classes would be chosen and stated there was a need to avoid coming to the end of the semester without having agreed upon courses to evaluate. A discussion then ensued over a general outline of items to consider in rating the IDEA instrument. The committee agreed that there were three stakeholders: faculty, students, and administration. In the case of faculty, the IDEA survey would be considered superior to the existing form if it provided useful diagnostics to improve teaching. These are lacking on the current form. For students, the IDEA survey would be considered superior if they believe it provides information to instructors to improve their teaching. This will need to be balanced against the additional time required to complete the longer survey. For administration, the IDEA survey would be considered valuable if it provides information to improve teaching and provides insights into strengths and weaknesses of instruction for individual instructors and units across campus. The Committee agreed that these guidelines were sufficient to begin choosing courses in which to test the IDEA instrument and that more tightly focused evaluation questions be prepared in subsequent meetings.

A motion was made that:

1. The committee asks the USU administration to assist the committee with the implementation of a pilot study of course evaluation using the long version of the IDEA evaluation form, Fall 2009.
2. The committee recommends that only courses taught by tenured faculty be included in the pilot study, and that the evaluations produced by the pilot study be excluded from consideration in promotion and salary decisions, unless a faculty member opts to have the pilot study evaluations considered.
3. The committee will identify a representative sample of USU courses that will be asked to participate in the pilot study. The committee sees no need also to evaluate these courses with the current USU form.

Each Committee member representing a college was asked to identify courses in the following categories:

Large enrollment general education course

Large enrollment freshman class for majors

Upper division (3000 – 5000) undergraduate course of moderate size (30 – 100)

Upper division (3000 – 5000) undergraduate course of small size (10 – 30)

Two graduate courses (6000 – 7000)

The identified courses will be discussed at the October meeting and a final list prepared. In addition to these Logan campus courses, courses at regional campuses need to be identified to use in the pilot test. One USU course, USU 1300, was identified as a course to include in the pilot study. Another large enrollment USU course will be chosen at the next meeting.

The next two meetings will be held 3:30 – 4:30 pm on the third Tuesday of October and November.