

Academic Regulation: 4.1.7ACR

Responsible Office(s): Office of the Provost

Effective: June 18, 2019

Next Review Date: Fall 2024

# **Academic Regulation: 4.1.7ACR Student Opinion of Instruction**

#### Statement

Each academic department shall be given primary responsibility of administering the University-sanctioned student opinion of instruction survey process and, if applicable, another evaluation questionnaire for student opinion of instruction chosen by the department. Student opinion of instruction shall be included in evaluation of all faculty regardless of tenure status.

Seeking feedback from students regarding their instructional experiences in courses is important in the overall assessment of teaching. However, nothing in this policy is meant to suggest that student opinion of instruction is the only method of assessing instruction nor is this policy meant to eliminate the requirement that departments develop a second systematic method of assessing instruction.

#### **Entities Affected**

- Colleges
- Departments
- Faculty
- Students

#### **Procedures**

- 1. The University-sanctioned student opinion of instruction survey shall be administered in all courses.
- Student opinion questionnaires shall be administered prior to the beginning of final examinations. The precise timeline is determined by the length of the course and with sufficient time for revisions or additions to the survey requested by faculty and for student responses.
- 3. Student opinion assessments shall not be administered in a way that exerts undue influence on student respondents.

- 4. The instructor shall have no access to the completed questionnaires until after grades for the course have been officially posted by the Registrar's Office.
- 5. The Office of Institutional Research shall be responsible for acquisition, distribution, and security of the University-sanctioned student opinion of instruction survey. Departments shall be responsible for additional methods of evaluating instruction but may be assisted, as appropriate by the Office of Institutional Research. The Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Research shall securely maintain student opinion of instruction data for at least seven (7) years. Department Chairs shall have access to student opinion of instruction data for all faculty teaching within the department and shall ensure that such data will be available to evaluation and promotion and tenure committees at the time for consideration of these matters. The data shall also be made available to the college promotion and tenure committee upon the request of either the instructor or the committee.
- 6. Each instructor shall have access to his/her own student opinion of instruction data and shall have the opportunity to analyze and comment on this data in evaluations.
- 7. Matters relating to this evaluation system not covered in the above provisions are left to the discretion of the various departments.
- 8. Specialized courses (such as practicums, studio lessons, and co-op) are not required to use the University-sanctioned student opinion of instruction survey. However, faculty, with the approval of the Department Chair, should work out a process of evaluation that is in keeping with the spirit of this policy. Faculty or departments that want to use the University-sanctioned student opinion of instruction survey for specialized courses can make arrangements with the Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Research.

## **Definitions**

University-Sanctioned Student Opinion of Instruction Survey: A survey
instrument approved by the University for use in all University courses to collect
and analyze students' opinions regarding their educational experience in a
course.

## Responsibilities

- Departments
  - Ensuring that each faculty member, regardless of tenure status, administers the University-sanctioned student opinion of instruction survey in all courses.
  - o Administering at least one additional method of evaluating instruction.
  - Ensuring that data from University-sanctioned student opinion of instruction survey is made available to evaluation and promotion and tenure committees.

## Faculty

- Faculty are responsible for ensuring that the University-sanctioned student opinion of instruction survey is administered in all of their classes in accordance with this policy.
- Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Research
  - Acquiring, distributing, and securing, the University-sanctioned student opinion of instruction survey;
  - Maintaining student opinion of instruction data securely for at least seven years.

# Regulation Adoption Review and Approval

Regulation Revised		
<u>DATE</u>	<u>ENTITY</u>	<u>ACTION</u>
October 18, 2024	University Counsel	Editorial Revision
June 18, 2019	Board of Regents	Adopted
April 22, 2019	President	Approved
April 3, 2019	Provost Council	Approved
March 4, 2019	Faculty Senate	Approved
Unknown	Unknown	Revision: Points 14 and 15
		altered from original
		version

Regulation Issued		
<u>DATE</u>	<u>ENTITY</u>	<u>ACTION</u>
October 10, 1987	Board of Regents	Adopted
April 6, 1987	Faculty Senate	Approved
October 6, 1985	Faculty Senate	Approved
October 28, 1985	Faculty Senate	Approved
February 6, 1984	Faculty Senate	Approved
April 14, 1978	Faculty Senate	Approved
May 2, 1977	Faculty Senate	Approved