

Project Update for Faculty Senate

Teaching Effectiveness Project

October 15, 2024

A Few Reminders

Joint Faculty Senate/Provost's Office initiative (Academic Strategic Plan, Goal 1.1)

Multi-year, multi-phased project to better **define, document, enhance, evaluate, and recognize** effective teaching in ways that align with our institutional identity and the research on effective practice

Overarching Project Goals:

- Greater consistency and equity in the evaluation of teaching
- More meaningful recognition and valuing of effective teaching across the University

Phase 1: Primary Focus

Defining Our Terms

Develop framework and definitions that are grounded in research literature and faculty input; these will serve as the foundation for going forward.

teaching

Building Shared Understanding

Build shared understanding of responsible teaching evaluation practices to inform future phases of this project.

teaching evaluation

Parallel Work

Updating “Course Evaluations”

End-of-term student course feedback surveys have a new name, a statement about potential for bias, and a new toolkit for students [[link](#)].

GEC, Provost’s Office, and Reinert Center effort

student feedback

Phase 1 Work to Date

- Initial planning (including meetings with FS Academic Affairs Committee and Faculty Gender Equity Committee)
- Kickoff email from Provost/FS President
- Call for Nominations: Teaching/Equity Advocates
- Call for Applications: Phase 1 Project Team
- Phase 1 Team finalized; initial planning meetings
- Kickoff Meeting: Teaching/Equity Advocates
- Updates to Faculty Senate
- Teaching Evaluation Practices Inventory (leadership)
- Defining Effective Teaching Survey (all stakeholders)
- Read [Critical Teaching Behaviors](#) (Barbeau & Cornejo-Happel)
- Website launched

2023-2024

Fall 2024

- Phase 1 Team resumes meetings
- Analyzed Defining Effective Teaching Survey responses
- Read [Small Teaching](#) (2nd ed., Lang)
- Invited new nominations: Teaching/Equity Advocates
- Reviewing example frameworks (SLU and non-SLU)
- Meeting with departments/groups upon request
- Developing initial framework drafts

Coming later this semester:

- Summary Report: Defining Effective Teaching Survey
- Draft framework(s) and definitions for feedback
- Resources on responsible evaluation of teaching

Work to Come

- Continue to share draft framework(s) and definitions for feedback (anticipate multiple rounds)
- Continue to build shared understanding of responsible evaluation of teaching
- Revise draft(s) based on community feedback
- Finalize and seek endorsement/approval for teaching effectiveness framework
- Develop recommendations and share lessons learned for Phase 2 priorities and focus (*assuming we're successful!*)

Spring 2025

Future Phases

- Design a system of evaluation using the framework
- Align Faculty Manual, R&T guidelines, other faculty policies, with terms/definitions
- Redesign student course feedback surveys to align with the framework
- Customize the framework for disciplinary specificity (in academic units)
- Build capacity for effective implementation (e.g., training for peers, chairs, etc.)
- Assess how the new system is working; revise accordingly

How can you contribute?

Share Ideas and Resources

General Input Form

[<http://tinyurl.com/TEP-general-input>]

Note: requires MySLU login.

Contact Team Members:

Debie Lohe, Lisieux Huelman, Amy Cooper,
Ben England, Gina Merys,
and Rabia Rahman

Stay Informed

Project Website

[<https://tinyurl.com/TEPatSLU>]

Invite us to a faculty meeting!

Contact Team Members:

Debie Lohe, Lisieux Huelman, Amy Cooper,
Ben England, Gina Merys,
and Rabia Rahman



Project Roles



PROJECT TEAMS

*Teams change by phase
(may have multiple teams at
once, depending on focus work)*



EQUITY ADVOCATES



TEACHING ADVOCATES

*Advocates span multiple phases
with multiple opportunities to join*