

Report to the U.S.U. Faculty Senate Executive Committee
Faculty Senate Faculty Evaluation Committee
September 12, 2005

Committee Membership

Michael Lyons, Chair Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences
Marilyn Albertson (08) Extension
Noel Carmack (06) Libraries
Lindsey Christensen (06) ASUSU Business Senator
Lincoln Essig (06) ASUSU Engineering Senator
Jamison Fargo (06) Education and Human Services
Chuck Hawkins (07) Natural Resources
Rhonda Miller (07) Agriculture
David Olsen (07) Business
Jason Pickup (06) GSS President
Greg Podgorski (08) Science
Gary Stewardson (06) Engineering

Committee Responsibilities

The Faculty Evaluation Committee shall: 1) assess methods for evaluating faculty performance; 2) recommend improvements in methods of evaluation; 3) recommend methods of faculty development; and; 4) decide university awards for Professor and Advisor of the Year.

Issues before the Committee, 2005-2006

Over the past few years, a number of U.S.U. Faculty Senate members have expressed concerns about the U.S.U. teaching evaluation process. In the months ahead, the Committee will assess this evaluation process, and it may recommend changes in the process to the U.S.U. Faculty Senate. One change the committee will consider will be the revision and/or simplification the existing evaluation form. The committee will initiate this process by surveying the faculty to gauge faculty satisfaction with the existing form, and to solicit recommendations from the faculty about how the form might be improved. The committee will also consider replacing in-class hard copy evaluations with on line evaluations, and the survey will include a question addressing this issue. A draft of the survey follows.

U.S.U. Faculty Senate Faculty Evaluation Committee
Faculty Survey

1. How many years of university teaching experience to you have?
 - A. Five or more
 - B. Four or fewer

2. My normal teaching responsibilities include (circle all that apply):
 - A. 1000 and/or 2000 level courses
 - B. 3000 and/or 4000 level courses
 - C. Graduate courses

3. In my opinion, the current U.S.U. standard course evaluation form:
 - A. Is about as good an instrument as we can expect to develop
 - B. Is satisfactory in some respects and unsatisfactory in others
 - C. Is unsatisfactory in many respects or all respects

4. The current U.S.U. standard course evaluation form differentiates between evaluation of the instructor and evaluation of the course. In practice, how useful has this differentiation been to you?
 - A. Extremely useful
 - B. Often useful
 - C. Not very useful

5. If U.S.U. were to replace in-class hard copy class evaluations with on line evaluations, it would be necessary to provide the students with an incentive to complete the evaluations. For example, the University of Utah accomplishes this by denying students access to their grades until they complete their evaluations. What do you think about replacing hard copy evaluations with on line evaluations?
 - A. It sounds like a good idea
 - B. It may be a good idea, but I have reservations about how incentives would be provided to the students
 - C. It does not sound like a good idea

