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2-17-2017

Request to explore the possibility of centralizing the SRI process

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Recommended Citation

Maurer, Trent, "Request to explore the possibility of centralizing the SRI process" (2017). *Faculty Senate Index*. 613.

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Request to explore the possibility of centralizing the SRI process

Submitted by: Trent Maurer

2/17/2017

Motion:

The ad hoc Committee on Student Ratings of Instruction moves that the Faculty Senate request that the Consolidation Operational Working Group that is tasked with the relevant faculty evaluation processes explore the possibility of centralizing the Student Ratings of Instruction process into one Office or Office per campus, including: printing, disseminating, administering, collecting, analyzing, and returning results to faculty and department chairs.

Rationale:

During the course of the pilot testing of the proposed new Student Ratings of Instruction instrument, the ad hoc Committee on Student Ratings of Instruction repeatedly received feedback from department chairs and administrative assistants that the existing SRI administration process was already burdensome enough to their departments, requiring significant amounts of time each semester. These individuals lamented having to spend so much time on the SRI process instead of other important departmental tasks. In addition, a decentralized approach results in both inefficiencies and inconsistencies, which would only be exacerbated by multiple campuses. A decentralized approach is inefficient because large numbers of individuals need to be continuously trained in how to process SRIs, and even the smallest change requires re-training of all those individuals. If a central office were responsible for the SRI process, a much smaller number of individuals would need to be trained. A decentralized approach is inconsistent because the process is open to interpretation and error by every department chair and administrative assistant instead of a small number of individuals in a central office. For a university of Georgia Southern's size, a centralized SRI process is likely to be far more efficient and consistent than our current decentralized model.

On behalf of the ad hoc Committee on Student Ratings of Instruction: Trent W. Maurer, Nan LoBue, Eudiah Ochieng, and Cordelia Zinskie

Response:

2/24/2017: The SEC voted not to approve this motion request as it is not part of the committee's charge, which is "to draft or recommend for purchase a new Student Rating of Instruction designed to measure teaching effectiveness," which was approved by President Keel on September 16, 2014.