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Senate Executive Committee Request for Information

Student Ratings of Instruction (SRI) Method of Delivery

Submitted by: Rob Yarbrough

11/2/2018

Question(s):

Are all departments required to administer Student Ratings of Instruction (SRIs) via an online/digital platform for fall 2018?

If so, when and how was this decided?

Are Statesboro and Armstrong campuses using the same SRI form/instrument?

Rationale:

Section 317 of the 2018-19 Faculty Handbook states "Courses shall be evaluated by students in the same manner as the course is conducted" (p. 53). The requirement to conduct SRIs for all courses via a digital platform regardless of a course's mode of delivery is a clear violation of the Faculty Handbook.

Response:

11/12/2018: The SEC approves this to be forwarded to the VP for Academic Affairs.

Minutes/11-27-2018: RFI on SRI Delivery Method (page 14)

Dustin Anderson (CAH) reported that SRIs are in the original forms as on housing campuses for this semester. In the spring, they will be collapsed into a single form. Next year, a task force will evaluate the best form for SRIs. The form itself is digital, but the delivery has no requirement. They can be completed online during or out of class. Delivery form needs to be in sync with classroom delivery (as in it wouldn't be right to ask an online student to come in to complete them). They are accessible through My Apps. Jim Lobue (COSM) added that we did not have time to develop a common instrument. One question is where results go: they go through the department to administrators in Statesboro, but this isn't the case at Armstrong. Faculty at Armstrong can select hand-written comments. Richard Flynn (CAH) reminded the Senate that the instrument has traditionally gone through the Senate. Anderson said that this will happen once a common instrument is developed.

Heidi Altman (CBSS) asked that we get the opportunity to approve of the instrument. She feels that this has gone through without input from Statesboro campus. Anderson says that this new committee will develop the instrument and it will go to Senate. Michelle Haberland (CAH) followed up that we are not in compliance with the handbook because faculty can let students complete SRI in class. If so, faculty need instructions on how to use the software in order to be in compliance with the faculty handbook. Anderson responded that it is best to administer SRIs in accordance with the course delivery. Anderson said that she was correct in that there was an oversight in the communication about SRI delivery. Stephanie Sipe (COB), who is on the ad hoc committee, noted that the recommendation will be made by February to come up with an effective instrument that respects everyone's interest. Anderson only recently learned that there had not been instructions for administering the SRIs.

Question: Ed Mondor (COSM) asked how it is determined which classes administer SRIs and which do not. His understanding is that some classes (labs) do not have SRIs. Dianna Cone (Provost's Office) says it has been the custom on the Statesboro campus that SRIs are not required for labs, independent studies, and so forth. Paper copies are problematic because the software is faulty. Thus, she says, we no longer have it. If you choose to do a paper SRI in a class that isn't required, you will have to do your own summary sheet. Janice Steirn (CBSS) asked what to do about students who don't have Smart phones since we don't have computers in most classes. Dustin Anderson (CAH) noted that what is important is the opportunity. Students without Smart phones could complete the SRI at a different time.