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UNH FACULTY SENATE MOTION # XXV - M12 on Student Evaluations of Teaching for Academic Year 2020-21

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UNH FACULTY SENATE MOTION # XXV – M12
on Student Evaluations of Teaching for Academic Year 2020-21

1. Motion presenter: Lisa MacFarlane, on behalf of the Academic Program Committee
2. Dates of Faculty Senate Discussion: 10/26/20, 11/2/20
3. **Motion: The Faculty Senate intends to provide an opportunity for students to provide feedback that can be used formatively to assess and improve teaching while also supporting faculty and holding individuals harmless for COVID-related issues that are out of their control. This motion applies to academic year 2020-21 only.**

The Faculty Senate therefore moves a two-part motion:

One, during COVID-conditions (yellow, orange, or red), the Senate will suspend the student evaluations of teaching used prior to Spring 2020. Faculty may, however, if they choose, opt to use the on-line teaching evaluations used prior to Spring 2020 by notifying the Information Technology team through their departmental or college administrator.

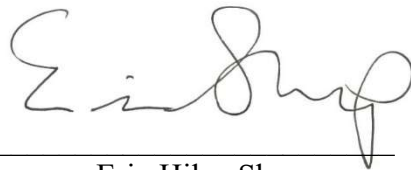
Two, the Senate will replace the student evaluations of teaching with end of semester surveys that address the effectiveness of course modalities, technologies, and pedagogy. These surveys should be formative in nature and administered with the intent that the information gathered be used to improve the academic experience for both students and faculty in the spring of 2021, when we anticipate a continuation of our current status. We anticipate three sets of open-ended questions not to exceed 8 questions. All faculty will administer 4 common questions on instructor/course effectiveness; and 1 question specific to course modality. These items will be vetted and prepared for presentation to Senate at the November 16 Senate meeting. In addition, departments and programs may add as optional no more than 3 questions specific to individual courses and program needs specific to the discipline. Departments are also free to use supplemental items.

Neither the surveys nor the standard evaluations are to be used in assessments for renewal, promotion, or tenure decisions unless the faculty member explicitly asks for them to be admitted into the process.

This motion applies to all course instructors, including teaching assistants. In the rare case where a program's accreditation standards specifically call for a single and particular (rather than general) type of evaluation of teaching, programs may, in the context of shared governance, develop holistic methods. From the Provost Senate Action:

4. **Senate Action: The motion was put to a vote on November 2, 2020. The motion passed with 52 in favor, 1 opposed, and 4 abstentions.**

5. Senate chair's signature: _____



Erin Hiley Sharp

Forwarded to the following on January 13, 2021

President James Dean
Wayne Jones, Provost
Kate Ziemer, Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs
Terri Winters, Assistant Vice Provost for Digital Learning & Communication
All deans and associate deans
All department chairs