

University of New Hampshire

University of New Hampshire Scholars' Repository

Faculty Senate Motions

Faculty Senate Documents

3-23-2020

UNH FACULTY SENATE MOTION # XXIV-M10 on Student Evaluations of Teaching for Spring 2020

Faculty Senate

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholars.unh.edu/faculty_senate_motions

Recommended Citation

Faculty Senate, "UNH FACULTY SENATE MOTION # XXIV-M10 on Student Evaluations of Teaching for Spring 2020" (2020). *Faculty Senate Motions*. 73.

https://scholars.unh.edu/faculty_senate_motions/73

This Text is brought to you for free and open access by the Faculty Senate Documents at University of New Hampshire Scholars' Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in Faculty Senate Motions by an authorized administrator of University of New Hampshire Scholars' Repository. For more information, please contact Scholarly.Communication@unh.edu.

UNH FACULTY SENATE
MOTION # XXIV- M10
on Student Evaluations of Teaching for Spring 2020

1. Motion presenter: Scott Smith, on behalf of the Agenda Committee

2. Dates of Faculty Senate Discussion: 03/23/2020

3. **Rationale:** Given the unprecedented nature of the Covid-19 outbreak and the disruption caused to instruction—especially the need to transition unexpectedly to online delivery—the Faculty Senate believes it is prudent and equitable to suspend student evaluations of teaching for Spring 2020. Realizing, however, that some instructors may wish to use the university’s evaluation system, we recommend that there be an opt-in mechanism for faculty to do so through their chair and departmental managers. Instructors choosing not to opt-in are encouraged to create their own course surveys, and faculty may find the appended template helpful. Furthermore, chairs and deans are given the additional guidance not to use the evaluations from Spring 2020 in any assessment unless a faculty member explicitly states that she wishes to do so.

4. **Motion:** The Faculty Senate moves that university-wide student evaluations of teaching be suspended for Spring 2020 unless a faculty member chooses to opt into them by notifying the Information Technology team through her or his departmental administrator. These evaluations are not to be used in assessments for renewal or promotion and 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.

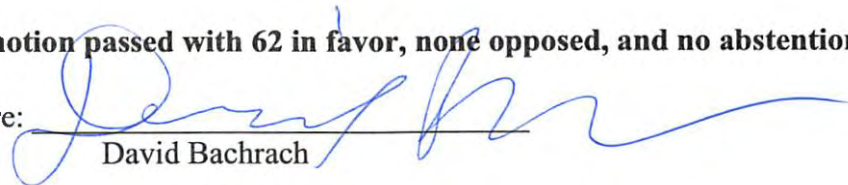
5. **Appendix:** Template for Open-Ended Student Surveys

Please note that the university expects all courses, including Discovery and elective courses, to be rigorous and challenging.

- 1. Your year, major and (if desired) your expected grade*
- 2. What did you learn in this course, and did it meet your expectations? Why or why not?*
- 3. What aspects of the course were effective in helping you master the material? You may wish to choose a class session that was most inspiring and discuss why.*
- 4. What aspects of the course would you suggest the instructor reconsider in future iterations? You may wish to choose a class session that you found less successful than others and explain.*
- 5. Further feedback for the course.*

6. **Senate action:** The motion passed with 62 in favor, none opposed, and no abstentions.

7. Senate chair’s signature:


David Bachrach

Forwarded to the following on March 31, 2020:

President James Dean
Wayne Jones, Provost
P.T. Vasudevan, Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs
Bill Poirier, Chief Information Officer, UNH and USNH
Terri Winters, Assistant Vice Provost for Digital Learning & Communication
All Deans
All Department Chairs