



Davis Division Academic Senate

Request for Consultation Responses

Proposed Course Evaluation Regulation DDR 534

November 30, 2011

Proposal to create a Course Evaluation Regulation to codify the requirement for student evaluation of courses.

Administrative Partners (DANN TRASK)

November 30, 2011 2:51 PM

Dear Professor Bisson,

The L&S Executive Committee has reviewed the proposal from CERJ to amend DDR 534 to mandate the use of course evaluations. The committee members support the new Regulation, and indeed were uniformly surprised to learn that course evaluations were not already mandatory.

However, the committee was puzzled by following statement in the rationale for the proposal: "The growing trend toward the use of electronic means of course evaluations threatens the privacy of the evaluating student and hence the integrity of the process". We do not see a conflict between electronic course evaluations, properly done, and student or faculty privacy.

On a final note, there appears to be some confusion in the proposal as to the exact specification of the affected Regulations. The text just prior to the "Rationale," as well as the draft legislation itself, indicate that this is an amendment to DDR 534, but the statement following "Proposed Revision" cites instead DDR 538. Moreover, DDR 534 and 538 presently exist—addressing "Approval for Registration in Variable-Unit Courses" and "Final Examinations", respectively—but the proposal does not indicate how the new legislative language would be accommodated in either case. Since neither seem particularly logical as a location for the proposed new Regulation, it would be helpful to see exactly where and how the amendment would be incorporated.

Sincerely,

Abigail Thompson, Chair
Executive Committee
College of Letters and Science

CAP Oversight Committee

November 21, 2011 10:31 AM

Proposed Course Evaluation Regulation DDR 534

Given the importance of student evaluations of teaching performance to the academic personnel review process for Academic Senate faculty, the Committee on Academic Personnel (CAP) supports adoption of a fair and transparent evaluation process that ensures consistent acquisition of objective student evaluations for each instructor.

CAP would like to see justification and/or clarification for two (2) statements in the proposed revision:

1. In the rationale it is stated that “The growing trend toward the use of electronic means of course evaluations threatens the privacy of the evaluating student and hence the integrity of the process.”
2. In the revision itself, reference is made to “authorized personnel.” CAP considers it self-evident that all faculty involved in the academic personnel review process should have access to instructor evaluations.

Council of School & College Faculty Chairs (AGRICULTURE)

December 3, 2011 12:09 PM

Teaching evaluations should be mandatory. Teaching evaluations must be available to the instructors. It would be good to require that all students submit teaching evaluations. Use of electronic means to gather teaching evaluations is wholly appropriate.

Council of School & College Faculty Chairs (EDUCATION)

November 21, 2011 8:16 AM

I am not totally sure of the intent of this amendment. Is it to ensure paper forms are used? If so, then leave the word "form" in the text. If not, then remove it. In the preface describing the intent of the amendment, electronic evaluations are discussed, but the body of the text to be added seems to describe a paper process. We in the School of Education would be very happy if we did mandate paper only, as we have seen a significant drop in student response rate since we have gone to a electronic survey.

Council of School & College Faculty Chairs (MANAGEMENT)

November 23, 2011 3:37 PM

No response at this time.

Council of School & College Faculty Chairs (VETERINARY MEDICINE)

November 18, 2011 11:45 AM

No response at this time.

Graduate Council

December 5, 2011 2:18 PM

No response at this time.

Undergraduate Council

December 6, 2011 8:53 AM

Undergraduate Council (UGC) has reviewed the proposed revision to Davis Division Regulation 534 regarding course evaluations. UGC supports the proposal as written.