Humboldt State University University Senate

Resolution on Institutional Reporting and Safety Linked to Online Teaching Evaluations

#14-13/14-FAC - October 29, 2013 - First Reading

RESOLVED: That the University Senate of Humboldt State University (Senate) recommends to the Provost that the compilation and summary reporting of online teaching evaluations is the responsibility of the Office of Institutional Research and Planning (IRP). Each term IRP will submit to the University Senate through the Faculty Affairs Committee a report providing institution-level data on the previous term's teaching evaluations. IRP reports should include data on mean response rates and mean and median scores across all classes; as well as reports that compare measures by course category such as lab, large lecture, small lecture and graduate seminar. These reports will be made available to faculty members to use in interpreting their own evaluation scores; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Senate requests that the Senior Associate Vice President for Faculty Affairs-Human Resources and the HSU CFA President or designee explore the policy options for allowing identification of student respondents in cases where a narrative reveals a threat of serious harm to any party.

Rationale: The University Senate in resolution #13-13/14-FAC approved the permanent online administration of teaching evaluations. The first resolve addresses concerns for ongoing monitoring of institutional outcomes on response rates and faculty scores to provide a context for interpreting individual faculty scores. Note: In the pilot year, one college office provided the data analysis and reporting of this type of institutional data. It is more appropriate to locate an all-institution reporting process in the IRP office so that analysis and reporting is consistent across colleges. Faculty Affairs worked with IRP and college offices to develop the first resolve. The second resolve addresses concerns raised by the CFA and individual faculty members regarding communication norms in online forums and our ability to responsibly respond when serious safety concerns are raised by student comments.