

To: Vincent Boudreau

From: Zahin Akif

Subject: Adding another survey to meet needs of engineering students

Date: 2/11/19

The purpose of this memo is to address the lack of proper student surveying of faculty at City College. The current method of surveying professors may provide unrealistic results leading to ~~business~~ professors. The overall goal of this is to improve system of evaluating the professors such that the professors themselves can improve their teaching strategies.

Summary

I conducted a random survey on 20 dorming college students who were at least sophomore engineers at CCNY. The results of the survey showed that over 90% of students felt that the end of semester professor surveys did not accurately reflect their feelings on each professor. This becomes problematic as the skewed results of the survey become an inaccurate representation of feedback. By assessing engineering professors earlier in the semester the feedback received from surveys would increase in accuracy.

Discussion

The end of the semester professor survey is not an adequate technique to get an understanding of how good a professor is. An article by Shomial Ahmad titled "Student Surveys Under Scrutiny" brought about several issues in the current survey method. Issues highlighted in the article range from biased evaluation, low response rates, and students being disinclined to respond.

Most students have already had difficulty with their course and their opinions may feel useless for themselves causing them to get desensitized to responding truthfully and with right intentions as it would not benefit them directly for respondent.

Another issue of the current method of distributing a survey is that the remaining students that are in a class are the ones who have not either dropped the class due to the professors performance or have not switched out of it in the first weeks. This creates a biased background in which the survey is initially taken.

Recommendation

A possible solution to more accurately evaluating professors would be to give a student survey a few weeks into the course in addition to at the end of the semester. Through doing this, students who have yet to drop the class can offer their opinion to create less of a bias.

The survey collected at the end of the third week can then be compared with professors teaching

St have little knowledge of the effectiveness of teaching strategies & your goal is not realistic.
What? -
Where is your survey data?
How? SS submit the data.

Requires evidence.
Your opinions are not the issue, not mention it in response.
Your opinion is not the issue, not mention it in response.
Wildly inaccurate assumption.
What bias are
You suppose exists?
What proof do you have of such bias?
Supportive evidence, otherwise it's just a complaint.

the same course to gauge the ability and effectiveness of each individual professor. Through doing this, students would be able to become equipped with instructors that they themselves feel fit.

This has nothing to do with your topic.

Often times the accolades and recognition that a professor has is what got them the job, however, that aspect to them is not representative of their ability to teach. The students would be the best to judge a professor's teaching ability as students are the individuals that are interacting and learning from them. The cost of implementing this system would be minimal as CCNY could partner with survey monkey to perform surveys with ease and have analytics within moments of submission. The total cost of this expenditure would range around \$1,188 annually by surveymonkey for the analytics and service. This is a relatively small price to pay for an optimal learning experience.

- ① Surveys don't reflect feelings, they gather data. Therefore, your claim is not valid.
- ② Your purpose is general about teaching, your summary focuses on engineering sts.
- ③ You claim that the surveys are inaccurate but you propose surveys to solve the inaccuracy. So you attempt to discredit your central solution.

Citations:

Sahmad. (2015, October 06). Student surveys under scrutiny. Retrieved from <https://www.psc-cuny.org/clarion/july-2015/student-surveys-under-scrutiny>