

**A Resolution to Support the Increased Use and Publication of Student Evaluation of  
Instructor Assessments**

Sarah Souders (for herself, Emily Underation, Mario Belfiglio, John Kaczmarek, Mary Honaker, and Kristen Bratton) introduced the following resolution to the steering committee where it passed.

\* \* \*

**Whereas** the Undergraduate Student Government represents all undergraduate students at The Ohio State University, and

**Whereas** the Student Evaluation of Instruction (SEI) instrument is the most widely-used method for collecting teaching feedback at The Ohio State University,<sup>1</sup> and

**Whereas** the Rules of the University Faculty, Rule 3335-3-35(C)(14) specifies that the Chair of the Department, or Director of the School, is obligated to “promote improvement of instruction by providing for the evaluation of each course when offered, including written evaluation by students of the course and instructors, and periodic course review by the faculty,”<sup>2</sup> and

**Whereas** the SEI instrument was developed as a way to centralize and standardize the student evaluation of instructor, and

**Whereas** the SEI is focused on the students' perceptions of instruction, taking into account those factors shown by research to affect responses, including class size and whether the course was required or an elective in the student's program,<sup>3</sup> and

**Whereas** the reporting of SEI results to students and faculty compares the evaluation score of the faculty member to classes of a similar size but fails to account for differences between course subject and department,<sup>4</sup> and

**Whereas** decisions such as these are overseen by an ad-hoc subcommittee of the Council on Academic Affairs whose responsibilities include weighing in on the administration of SEIs, recommending policy and content changes, advocacy of the SEI, and other SEI related activities,<sup>5</sup> and

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<sup>1</sup> [https://registrar.osu.edu/secure/sei\\_search/](https://registrar.osu.edu/secure/sei_search/)

<sup>2</sup> <http://trustees.osu.edu/assets/files/RuleBook/UniversityFacultyRules.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> [http://registrar.osu.edu/faculty/sei/SEI\\_handbook.pdf](http://registrar.osu.edu/faculty/sei/SEI_handbook.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> [https://registrar.osu.edu/secure/sei\\_search/](https://registrar.osu.edu/secure/sei_search/)

<sup>5</sup> [http://registrar.osu.edu/faculty/sei/SEI\\_handbook.pdf](http://registrar.osu.edu/faculty/sei/SEI_handbook.pdf)

39 **Whereas** the University of Minnesota worked in collaboration with its student senate to increase  
40 the number of items on their “Student Rate of Teaching” (SRT) assessment and created a website  
41 for students to navigate this information,<sup>6</sup> and  
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43 **Whereas** other Big Ten Schools including the University of Michigan and Michigan State  
44 University publish the response rates of their university wide assessments by department<sup>7</sup> and  
45 have created separate student feedback pages regarding instructor and course evaluation in  
46 addition to releasing the results of the university administered assessments,<sup>8</sup> and  
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48 **Whereas** the Ohio State University publishes the departments not required to comply with the  
49 Office of Academic Affairs policies,<sup>9</sup> but does not publish the list of excluded courses and  
50 instructors who opt out of the SEI instrument,<sup>10</sup> and  
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52 **Whereas** students are unable to view the class or cumulative SEI report available to faculty,<sup>11</sup>  
53 and  
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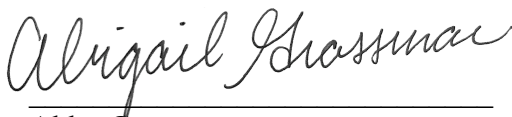
55 **Whereas** students can view only 4 of the 10 evaluation metrics on the Buckeye Link home page;  
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57 **Therefore Let it Be Resolved** that the undergraduate student body advocates that all 10 SEI  
58 items be available for student view on the Buckeye Link Student Center dashboard, and  
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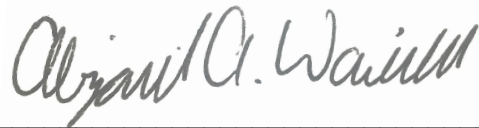
60 **Let it Further Be Resolved** that the SEI subcommittee of the Council on Academic Affairs  
61 change the comparison of SEI results from general class size to comparison by class size within  
62 the department in addition to publishing response rates between departments, and  
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64 **Let it Further Be Resolved** that the university work to increase the reliability of the SEI  
65 instrument by requiring its completion and reserving the award of course credit until after student  
66 completion of the SEI in addition to other faculty determined evaluation measures.  
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68 Floor Vote: PASSED WITH UNANIMOUS CONSENT  
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73 Abby Grossman  
74 President  
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73 Abby Waidelich  
74 Vice President  
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77 Date Adopted: January 27, 2016

Date Terminated: \_\_\_\_\_

6 <http://oms.umn.edu/srtsr/>

7 <http://www.ro.umich.edu/evals/>

8 <https://reg.msu.edu/academicPrograms/Print.aspx?Section=516>

9 <https://registrar.osu.edu/faculty/sei/faqs.asp#usingSEIs>

10 <https://registrar.osu.edu/faculty/sei/onlineseilist.asp>

11 [http://registrar.osu.edu/faculty/sei/SEI\\_handbook.pdf](http://registrar.osu.edu/faculty/sei/SEI_handbook.pdf)