

RESOLUTION 2

TO: Student Government Association
FROM: Cheyanne Matulewich, President of the Student Government Association
SPONSOR: Tyreek Alicea, Intern at the Office of Student Leadership
Brittany Vanduzer, Senator of the Student Government Association
DATE: September 6th, 2019
SUBJECT: Mandatory Faculty Evaluations

ACTION REQUESTED

That the College of SUNY Cobleskill make Faculty Evaluations mandatory for all faculty across the board.

RESOLUTION

I recommend that the Student Government Association adopt the following resolution:

Whereas, Faculty evaluations can and should be a valuable tool for acknowledging and examining faculty performance and for improving student learning. They should help to demonstrate and encourage faculty members' engagement with the academic community and participation in college activities, including college governance¹.

Whereas, The evaluation process must be collegial and professional, relying primarily on the input of faculty peers to promote improvement and excellence in teaching and service delivery.

Whereas, The evaluation should be directly handed to the supervisors of the individual faculty. This is to ensure an accountability check so that the faculty can be assessed semesterly on student feedback.

Whereas, When asking the other 63 SGA SUNY Campus Presidents if they provide mandatory, semesterly, faculty evaluations, 90% of the SGA Presidents stated that they did and always have.

Whereas, An online evaluation could be an easier, accessible tool to utilize to implement faculty evaluations.

¹ https://www.asccc.org/sites/default/files/publications/Principles-Faculty-Evaluation2013_0.pdf

Whereas, In a teaching and learning community, the most effective evaluation is that which encourages and rewards effective teaching practices on the basis of student learning outcomes².

Whereas, A yearly professional development program could be implemented if a faculty scores below a certain threshold of their evaluations. This could give the faculty tools for success and continuous training to better serve their students.

Whereas, Students at SUNY Cobleskill do not feel safe, empowered, and free to give formal feedback to the faculty and have a fear of retribution from said faculty³.

Whereas, Departments and institutions have an ethical and moral obligation to be discerning in evaluating faculty members. A flawed evaluation process creates flawed results. It is compulsory for SUNY Cobleskill to evaluate teaching with a process that centers student voices and experiences, with assurances that data will be interpreted with attention to detail.

Resolved, That the State of New York College of Cobleskill negotiates the faculty union agreement to implement mandatory faculty and course evaluations across all faculty.

Resolved, That the State University of New York at Cobleskill responsibility for assessing faculty evaluations will lie with relevant deans and department chairs.

Resolved, That the College follows the positive examples set by the other SUNY Colleges in order to continue providing high-quality, competitive education to its students.

² <https://www.nap.edu/read/10024/chapter/7#71>

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