Task Force on Student Evaluation of Courses and Instructors

Task Force Charge: Recommend a consistent university-wide process for student evaluation of courses and teaching. Please consider the following points in arriving at a recommendation:

1. The process should be consistent across campus and based on best practice in the field related to instrument design, administration, data collection, report format and use of results.

2. There should be a set of 5-7 core questions that adequately reflect the essentials of teaching excellence at RIT. In addition, there should be a bank of additional formative questions.

3. The process should reflect appropriate use of technology. The current RIT optical scanning service associated with student ratings is 38 years old and is built on outdated, non-supported technology. According to ITS, it is highly probable that services could not be restored should an extreme outage occur. Given this, the university will need to replace the technology and the configuration of the technology based on needs or buy a new system and the associated processing from the marketplace.

4. In arriving at a recommendation, the task force should explore products within RIT (eg. On-line Evaluation System) as well as student rating products and services in the including IDEA Center products (http://www.theideacenter.org/node/5), the University of Washington Instructional Assessment System (IAS) and other commercially produced and supported systems.

Timeframe: Recommendations to Provost by June 30, 2009.

Task Force Members:

CIAS: Alan Reddig/Nancy Ciolek   COLA: Joseph Henning

CAST: Changfeng Ge   NTID: Larry Quinsland

COS: G. Thomas Frederick   EDF: Birgit Coffey

SCOB: Robert Barbato   Dean: Harvey Palmer

GCCIS: Ed Holden   Wallace Center: Lynn Wild; Damon Betlow

KGCOE: Beth DeBartolo   Student Government: Teraisa Chloros; Cory
                                                                Gregory

ITS: David Hostetter   Assessment: Anne Wahl, Consultant to Committee

Resources:

- ✓ Current Student Rating Forms Used at RIT: Dr. Anne Wahl has them on file
- ✓ Article from IDEA Center: Student Ratings of Teaching: Recommendations for Use (attached)