

## Charge for Ad hoc Committee on Student Assessment of Instruction

February 2023

### BACKGROUND:

Over a decade has passed since the Student Assessment of Instruction (SAI) was moved from paper to online. In [September 2013](#), in response to faculty concerns about low student response rates and about the usefulness of the SAI as a tool for evaluation of faculty, Faculty Senate convened an ad-hoc committee to review aspects of the SAI and recommend improvements. The ad-hoc committee reported to Senate in [October 2013](#). On [April 10, 2014](#), the ad-hoc committee presented its report to Faculty Senate; Senate voted to table the report until the next April meeting. At the [April 24, 2014](#) meeting, the Senate passed amended policies on the timing of evaluations and on classes of less than 5 students not being evaluated. In [September 2015](#), after another year of work on revising the evaluation form, the ad-hoc committee presented to Senate a revised SAI form. In [October 2015](#), Faculty Senate voted down the new form.

### TODAY:

Faculty concerns about low student response rates and about the usefulness of the SAI as a tool for evaluation of faculty persist. In February 2023, Faculty Senate will organize an ad-hoc committee to take a fresh look at the Student Assessment of Instruction and propose recommendations with three goals in mind:

- Increase student response rate for evaluations
- Reduce student bias in evaluations
- Explore the feasibility of aligning the Longwood SAI with other current best practices in student evaluations, based on higher education research.

### COMMITTEE COMPOSITION:

The Faculty Senate Executive Committee will issue a call for volunteers for this committee. The committee will include faculty members, with at least one representative each from CBE, CCCAS, CEHHS; include graduate and undergraduate faculty; include both tenured and tenure-track faculty, as well as a senior lecturer, clinical educator, or senior clinical educator; and include student members (both undergraduate and graduate). It would also be helpful if some committee members had expertise in survey design.

### TIMELINE:

The Committee will give an initial update about its work at the final April 2023 meeting of Faculty Senate, but the Committee would not be expected to recommend changes until the 2023-2024 academic year.