To: Instructors Who Taught Courses During the Fall 2006 Term

From: Richard M. Englert

Subject: Fall 2006 Course and Teaching Evaluations

Date: January 24, 2007

Included in this envelope are the results from the student evaluations for the fall 2006 term for your course. The results are based on those student evaluations that were returned to your college or departmental office by the student volunteer from your course. This message contains a summary of the rating data, and a listing of all the comments made by the students in your course to the open-ended questions on the evaluation form. A brief explanation of how to interpret the data is presented below.

Data from a hypothetical course section for Question 1 within the “General Information About the Instructor” area:

| ENROLLMENT: | 14 |
| RETURNED FORMS: | 12 |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Strongly Agree = 5</th>
<th>Agree = 4</th>
<th>Neutral = 3</th>
<th>Disagree = 2</th>
<th>Strongly Disagree = 1</th>
<th>Not Applicable or Did Not Answer</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>SD</th>
<th>Pct'l Rank</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>n = 12</td>
<td>(7)</td>
<td>(4)</td>
<td>(1)</td>
<td>(0)</td>
<td>(0)</td>
<td>(0)</td>
<td>4.50</td>
<td>0.65</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The data presented above indicate that there were 14 students enrolled in the course, but that only 12 returned the evaluation form. The first line in the table reports the number of students who used each of the possible ratings. Thus, of the 12 students who completed the rating form, 7 indicated that they “Strongly Agree” with the statement that “The instructor clearly explained the educational objectives of this course”, four indicated that they “Agree” with
this statement, one student reported “Neutral”, and no student indicated disagreement with the statement. In addition, no student checked “Not Applicable” or did not answer the question.

The second line of the table (labeled “Section”) presents these same data converted into percentages. Since 7 out of the 12 students used the rating of “Strongly Agree”, this is 58% of the ratings. The 4 students who indicated that they “Agree” with the statement represent 33% of the ratings, and so on. Using a value of 5 for “Strongly Agree,” 4 for “Agree,” 3 for “Neutral” and so on, the mean (or average) for this section is 4.50. The column labeled “SD” (for Standard Deviation) is an indication of the dispersion of the ratings. Since most of the students rated the course fairly highly, the dispersion of these ratings is relatively small.

The final four lines of the table report the data for different comparison groups. These groups are:

Third line (Department): All of the courses in the same department as the hypothetical course

Fourth line (College): All of the courses in the same college as the hypothetical course

Fifth line (Level): All of the courses, across the University, at the same level (lower division undergraduate, upper division undergraduate, or graduate/professional) as the hypothetical course

Sixth line (University): All of the courses across the entire University

The final number in the table at the end of lines three through six is a percentile rank that is provided as one way to compare an instructor’s ratings to these different groups. For example, on the bottom line, the table indicates that for Question 1, the average score for all University courses rated in the sample semester was 4.23. When the average Question 1 scores for all University courses are listed from top to bottom, the hypothetical course’s average of 4.50 is at the 66th percentile. That is, 66% of all the courses had average scores lower than the hypothetical’s on Question 1. These data are reported for all 15 questions on the evaluation form.

The additional data that are reported (page 1 of your report) were derived from the questions at the top of the student evaluation form. These questions ask the students to indicate what their interest was in the course prior to taking it, what grade they expect to get, whether the course was required or elected, and the number of hours per week spent preparing for the course. As before, comparison data are provided.

Please be advised that data are not reported for any course in which the enrollment is less than eight. This decision was made to ensure that anonymity is maintained for students whose identity might be determined in courses with limited enrollment.

If you have suggestions about the way the form is structured or the way the data are reported, please send your suggestions to me at provost@temple.edu. Thank you for your participation.
This section was not scored because class enrollment was less than the required minimum. (See Temple University Policy on Course and Teaching Evaluations 02.78.14)