

# FACT SHEET- IDEA COURSE EVALUATIONS

The IDEA Student Rating of Instruction for use of TTU faculty course evaluations began at TTU in 1994. In 2006, the Academic Council approved the use of this tool's results for informing decisions regarding professional development, improvement of instruction, and future teaching assignments. In 2013, IDEA improved and enhanced its survey tool and shifted to online evaluation of instruction powered by Campus Labs, a planning, data, and assessment program. **Enhancements of the updated IDEA system:**

- Adapted items that allow us to better align with accreditation and professional standards, including the AAC&U, regional accreditors, and other recognized learning organizations
- Expansion of Learning Objectives to include civic engagement, ethical decision-making, diverse perspectives, and quantitative literacy
- Inclusion of service-learning and self-reflection among the new Teaching Methods
- A more concise and focused Diagnostic Feedback instrument with interactive results for faculty
- More Instruments: Teaching Essentials and Learning Essentials, have been aligned with the updated Diagnostic Form
- Capability to assess students Before Class, During Class, End of Class, and After Class

**Results from the IDEA Course Evaluations determine how to improve teaching, gauge student progress on relevant objectives chosen by the specific course instructor, and for faculty tenure and promotion evaluation.** Due to this factor, a course evaluation tool must be interchangeable or compatible with the current used version of course evaluations used for Tenure and promotion at TTU, and the updated survey and any result reports are consistent with past results and can be printed for Dossiers.

In Fall 2016 and Spring 2017, presentations were given to Deans' Council, SGA, and Faculty Senate and the program received positive input and feedback. In Fall 2017, various colleges and departments are scheduled for presentations. Our current Course Evaluation Contract is from July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2022.

## **Advantages to Implementation and Features include:**

- Online access for students, faculty, and chairpersons
- Track live response rates
- Interactive results accessible immediately at close of grading
- Department aggregated results accessible in real-time for Chairpersons
- Capability for formative and summative assessment
- Identifies areas for improvement in teaching
- Provides best practices for faculty development in relation to interactive results
- Continue to give surveys during class time, accessible by any smartphone, tablet, or laptop
- Feature includes pdfs for digital dossiers

**On July 1, 2017, we began the set up and roll out of the online delivery of all campus course evaluations with the updated IDEA Survey tool powered by Campus Labs.** Numerous workshops and training will occur throughout the semester for the administration of the survey for chairperson, faculty, and students. The Teaching and Learning Center for Excellence will be offering detailed sessions for Faculty development using course evaluation results.

**Training Schedules are accessible to allow chairpersons, administrative staff, and faculty members to receive an initial overview.** Additional self-paced detailed online training is accessible for on- and off-campus faculty and staff. During the Spring semester, Results Report Training Workshops are offered (TBA).

#### CHAIRPERSONS AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

October 2 (10-11am) Department Chairs/Administrative Staff Overview Training  
October 3 (11-12noon) Department Chairs/ Administrative Staff Overview Training  
October 4 (2-3pm) Department Chairs/ Administrative Staff Overview Training  
October 6 (10-11am) Department Chairs/ Administrative Staff Overview Training

#### FACULTY MEMBERS

October 10 (11-12noon) Faculty Overview Training Bell Hall 260  
October 11 (2-3pm) Faculty Overview Training Bell Hall 264  
October 13 (10-11am) Faculty Overview Training Bell Hall 260  
October 17 (11-12noon) Faculty Overview Training Bell Hall 260  
October 18 (2-3pm) Faculty Overview Training Bell Hall 260  
October 20 (10-11am) Faculty Overview Training Bell Hall 264  
October 24 (11-12noon) Faculty Overview Training Bell Hall 260  
October 25 (2-3pm) Faculty Overview Training Bell Hall 260  
October 27 (10-11am) Faculty Overview Training Bell Hall 260

#### **GENERAL PROCESS:**

1. Beginning of semester-Interface with Banner to upload all courses, faculty, and students
2. Begin Student Communication (VERY IMPORTANT- templates will be provided)
3. During semester- Update courses and student rosters at appropriate times
4. Collect "Course Exclusion Requests" from Tenured Faculty
5. End of semester- Last two weeks of classes implement survey (not during finals week)
6. Results available after close of grades (after deadline/exceptions)

#### **FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE IDEA SYSTEM FROM A SCHOLARLY PERSPECTIVE, PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING RESEARCH-BASED ARTICLES:**

Linse, A. R. (2016). Interpreting and using student ratings data: Guidance for faculty serving as administrators and on evaluation committee. The Pennsylvania State University, United States. Retrieved from <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0191491X16300232> .

Benton, S. L. & Ryalls, K. R. (2016). Challenging misconceptions about student ratings of instruction. IDEA paper number 58. Retrieved from [https://www.ideaedu.org/Portals/0/Uploads/Documents/IDEA%20Papers/IDEA%20Papers/PaperIDEA\\_58.pdf](https://www.ideaedu.org/Portals/0/Uploads/Documents/IDEA%20Papers/IDEA%20Papers/PaperIDEA_58.pdf) .

**More information about how to administer IDEA Course Evaluations is available on the University Assessment website: <https://www.tntech.edu/assessment/idea/> (Click on Administering IDEA).**