

Faculty Senate Resolution: Impacts of Coronavirus and Online Lectures/Laboratories on SRI Scores Spring 2020

Last update: 4.7.20

Whereas the novel coronavirus, which causes the disease known as COVID-19, has caused significant complications during the Spring 2020 term, including the transition of all courses and labs to an online format for the remainder of that term;

Whereas the Student Rating of Instruction (SRI) instrument is the most widely utilized tool by which teaching performance and outcomes are assessed from the student perspective;

Whereas the SRI is an integral performance measure in annual faculty evaluations and rank, tenure, and promotion decision-making; and

Whereas the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted instruction and the student experience for the Spring 2020 term, some students may rate their instructor differently as a result of the events surrounding the transition to online delivery; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Faculty Senate at Utah Valley University:

1. recognizes many of the courses and labs moved online were done so as a triage measure;
2. supports the administration of SRIs in spring 2020 courses;
3. urges RTP Chairs, Department Chairs, Deans, and the Office of Academic Affairs to interpret SRIs from the spring 2020 term in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic during the annual faculty evaluation and rank, tenure, and promotion processes; and
4. urges RTP Chairs, Department Chairs, Deans, and the Office of Academic Affairs to grant an emergency exception to [policy 637 Faculty Tenure](#) that requires the inclusion of all SRIs in annual faculty evaluations and RTP portfolios, granting faculty members the right to either include or exclude SRI results from the Spring 2020 term on a class by class basis, and that non-inclusion of SRI results from the Spring 2020 term shall not negatively impact the faculty member.

Mover:

Seconders: