

SENATE COMMITTEE ON FACULTY AFFAIRS

Online SRTE Pilot Project

(Informational)

On October 28, 2004, the Vice Provost for Academic Affairs commissioned a committee to investigate the feasibility of moving the administration of the SRTEs from a paper distribution to an on-line environment. An on-line course evaluation tool (on-line SRTE) was developed and implemented via ANGEL. As the base of current scanning operations for the paper SRTEs, the Schreyer Institute for Teaching Excellence was selected as the processor for the on-line pilot project.

The Senate Committee on Faculty Affairs asked the Schreyer Institute for Teaching Excellence to provide an overview of the Online SRTE Pilot Project to the University Faculty Senate (attached).

Online SRTEs have been pilot-tested for three semesters: Fall 2005, Spring 2006, and Fall 2006. The attached slides provide a summary of current data from the pilot project and address some of the concerns expressed by faculty about on-line SRTEs. Questions addressed here focus solely on issues related to on-line SRTEs, even though some faculty have questions about SRTEs that apply to both paper and on-line delivery methods.

The primary purposes of the report are to:

- provide a summary of Online SRTE participation,
- review the current Online SRTE process for students and faculty,
- discuss some of the benefits of administering the process on-line, and
- address some of the most common faculty questions.

The results of the pilot project have been promising, but answers to faculty questions about impact may change if the program is expanded from primarily voluntary participants to larger and more systematic samples of courses, sections, and faculty. The teaching institute continues to receive requests to participate from individual faculty and academic units across the University.

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On-Line SRTE Pilot Project

Angela R. Linse, Ph.D.
Executive Director and Associate Dean
Wendy Baker
Manager, Planning and Operations

Schreyer Institute for Teaching Excellence

Purpose

Overview

- Process
- Benefits
- Faculty Questions

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Pilot Project Summary

	Fall 05	Spring 06	Fall 06
Courses	8	79	64
Sections	63	123	226
Faculty	16	72	70
Enrollment	1687	4775	7300

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Colleges & Campuses

# Sections	College/Campus
3	Communications
78	Engineering
9	Earth & Mineral Sciences
1	Great Valley
265	Science
48	World Campus
8	York

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Departments/Program

# Sections	Department/Program
235	Biology
3	Communications
9	Energy & Geo-Environmental Engr
36	Engr Design, Tech, & Prof'l Programs
42	Engineering Science & Mechanics
30	Physics
48	World Campus
9	Other single on-line courses

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Campus & Delivery

Sections	On-Line	Face-to-Face	Total*
University Park	10	343	353
Campuses	50	8	58
Total	60	351	

* Figures do not include 1 blended learning course

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	<h2>What questions are used?</h2>
	<p>Questions A1-A4 (required) Departmental selections (B-section) Open-ended questions (optional)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ What did you like most about this course? ■ What did you like least about this course? ■ What suggestions do you have for improving this course?
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	<h2>Process for Students</h2>
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Automatic e-mail to students (available 2 weeks before end of term) 2. Students access ANGEL 3. Courses available for rating 4. Click on course 5. Complete form 6. Click "Save" or "Submit"
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	<h2>What Students See</h2>
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	<h2>What Students See</h2>
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	<h2>Process for Faculty</h2>
	<p style="text-align: center;">None.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Currently not accepting new faculty/courses in pilot project ■ Eventually enrollment can be automatic
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	<h2>Benefits</h2>
	<p>Flexibility</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Updating & changing questions ■ Secure and accessible records <p>Time</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ No critical class time needed ■ No time limit for students ■ Quicker results for faculty <p>Errors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ No missing information ■ Course information automatic
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Are on-line response rates low?

Example College		
	Fall 06 Paper	Fall 06 On-line
Enrollment	13417	3726
Submissions	9136	2467
Mean Response Rate	68%	66%
Standard Deviation	21%	15%
Range	18% - 194%*	28% - 100%
# Courses	134	22

* Submissions exceed enrollment because multiple sections coded as a single section, auditing students, or special instructor codes

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Are response rates lower for on-line ratings?

Course	Paper*	On-Line		
		Fall 05	Fall 06	Spring 06
A	41%	55%	—	68%
B	64%	—	62%	68%
C	83%	—	62%	64%
D	64%	—	60%	59%
E	56%	—	37%	64%
F	97%	91%	96%	89%
G	61%	—	62%	55%
H	82%	—	51%	63%

* Most recent paper response rate available for same instructor, same course

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Are response values lower for on-line ratings?

Item values for three experienced faculty from one department (same course, section, & semester)

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Who wants to participate?

Campuses	2
Associate Deans	1
Department Chairs	2
Faculty	2
Instructional Designers	4

* Does not include telephone or administrative/staff assistant inquiries.

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Need more information?

Follow program progress:
<http://onlinesrte.psu.edu>

Additional questions:
Angela Linse
Executive Director & Associate Dean
alins@psu.edu

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