Recent History of Teaching Evaluation Revision at OSU

In 2019 Spring Term, the Advancement of Teaching (AOT) committee of Faculty Senate organized a cross-university working group to review the four primary ways in which teaching is evaluated at OSU: (1) student feedback; (2) peer evaluation; (3) self reflection; and (4) teaching portfolios. This working group, called the OSU Teaching Evaluation Revision (OTER) working group, was made up of over 70 members of the OSU community and represented tenure-track faculty (39% OTER participants), non-tenure-track faculty (30%), students (11%), advisors, and administrators from seventeen academic units. The OTER cohort was split into four small subgroups, each tasked with reviewing one of the methods of evaluation, proposing implementable changes in how that evaluation occurs/is used at OSU.

The OTER groups produced not only final summary documents of their work, but also the Quality Teaching (QT) Framework, a set of guiding principles in teaching excellence to inform instruction and teaching evaluation. Consistent with course and curricular backward design principles, the QT Framework first clearly states the goals for teaching, providing direction for the design of aligned teaching evaluation tools and approaches. OSU's mission statement and a large body of research on teaching and learning in higher education provided the rationale and evidentiary basis for the Quality Teaching Framework (see here). It is important to note that the QT Framework is a set of guiding principles and is not intended to be a checklist to evaluate an individual teaching session or faculty member. Colleges and units are responsible for deciding how their respective programs would implement evaluation based on these principles.

The findings of this working group, including the working version of the QT Framework, were submitted to Faculty Senate in fall 2019. For the final OTER Final Report see here.

Stemming from the OTER Final Report, Faculty Senate Executive Committee tasked the AOT Committee to work on two key initiatives for the 2019-2020 year. These are:

- 1. Initiate a formal process of discussing, revising, and adopting the Quality Teaching Framework across OSU by the end of AY 2019-2020.
- Select a new model to collect data about Student Learning Experiences, aligned to the Quality Teaching Framework, by the end of AY 2019-2020; this work includes initiating a working collaboration between AOT and the Promotion and Tenure Committee during the Student Learning Experience tool pilot.

Quality Teaching Framework Revision Process and Timeline

- Collecting Feedback
 - We invite comment from the OSU Community at public forums held on Corvallis campus and virtually (with Zoom connection); all virtual conversations will be recorded
 - Each forum will have a focused interest group, but any member of the community may attend any session

- Please sign up for forum participation here
 - Dates: see here.
 - Sign up to attend a forum
- A Qualtrics Survey allows any OSU community member to provide feedback
 - All feedback is sought by March 13
 - See survey here
- Revising Quality Teaching Principles
 - Between public forums, examples will be added to the Quality Teaching Framework sub-principles (Under "Examples may include:...")
 - Major restructuring of the QT Framework will not occur between sessions, but ongoing ideas will be shared at each public meeting
 - Substantive feedback (i.e. that pertain to the principles themselves) will be incorporated after all public hearings have concluded
- Presentation to Faculty Senate
 - The final working draft of the QT Framework will be presented to Faculty Senate for discussion in Spring 2020, with the intention to adopt the QT Framework university wide to inform instruction and teaching evaluation by June 2020
- Coordination with Faculty Senate Promotion and Tenure Committee
 - Should the QT Framework become adopted across OSU, it will have significant implications for how teaching is evaluated at OSU and therefore influence promotion and tenure or other employment decisions. AOT is working with the Faculty Senate Promotion and Tenure Committee to help guide policy changes associated with institutional changes in teaching expectations. It is important to note that the QT Framework is a set of guiding principles and is not intended to be a checklist to evaluate an individual teaching session or faculty member. Colleges and units are responsible for deciding how their respective programs would implement evaluation based on these principles.

For Questions and Comments, please contact:

Devon Quick, Past Chair, AOT, QT Framework subcommittee, devon.quick@oregonstate.edu Robin Pappas, Chair, AOT, robin.pappas@oregonstate.edu