



UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–LA CROSSE
STUDENT ASSOCIATION
2244 THE U 1705 BADGER STREET LA CROSSE, WI 54601 (608) 785-8775

SA1920-042: Resolution to Recommend that a Written Comment Section Should Be Available on All SEI's

DATE: February 15, 2020

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WHEREAS most departments at UW-La Crosse allow students to provide written comments in their SEI's, but some departments (History, Mathematics and Statistics, Economics, and Computer Science) do not provide written feedback sections and only allow students to rank their professors through Likert-scale questions; and

WHEREAS there has been an ongoing concern over the past three years from students about the lack of comment sections on SEI's for these departments, which past Student Association members have attempted to address through conversations with department chairs; and

WHEREAS students see SEI's as an important opportunity to provide feedback and SEI's are currently the only place for students to do so anonymously and systematically; and

WHEREAS students tend to experience a course expecting that they will be able to provide quality feedback through comments and they become surprised and often frustrated when an SEI does not allow them to do so; and

WHEREAS although the Student Association recognizes that instructors with marginalized identities statistically have lower scores on SEIs because of biases and that student comments may be disproportionately more negative of less content-related for instructors with marginalized identities students still need a conduit for providing systematic feedback regarding courses. The Student Association is committed to helping UWL train students about commentary that is appropriate and helpful to instructors; and

WHEREAS UWL Student Association recognizes that the vast majority of instructors strive to provide excellent education for their students; and

WHEREAS written feedback on SEI's could be used by professors to make changes for future classes and would also allow students to share comments that can help improve a course; and



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WHEREAS written feedback can help explain the reasons why a professor is receiving high or low scores, since Likert-scale ratings do not give any insight for instructors or department chairs on why they are receiving those scores; and

WHEREAS UWL Student Association recognizes that Faculty Senate may be substantially modifying the SEI measures in the future, but encourages adding the comment section by the end of this semester to address these inconsistencies; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the UWL Student Association recommends that written comments should be included in all SEI surveys starting Spring 2020 (if possible) and no later than Fall 2020.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dana Nielsen', written over a horizontal line.

Dana Nielsen
President, Student Senate
Vice President, Student Association

02/26/2020

Date

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sita Agterberg', written over a horizontal line.

Sita Agterberg
President, Student Association

02/26/2020

Date