Teaching on Our Minds ........

2015 Annual NACTA Conference

Indian River Research and Education Center—Fort Pierce, FL

University of Georgia—Athens, GA

"Gentle On My Mind" by Glen Campbell

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Teaching Factors on Their Minds.....
Influencers of Student Ratings and Participation in the Faculty Course Evaluation Process

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Teaching Factors on Their Minds.....
Faculty Course Evaluation Process

- Analyzed student participation and course ratings factors:
  - 713 student evaluations
  - Ten (10) year period
  - Upper division undergraduate Agricultural Economics class
  - Multiple majors and minors
  - “Live” and asynchronously online
  - One University of Florida instructor
Teaching Factors on Their Minds.....
Faculty Course Evaluation Process

- **Evaluation Formats:**
  - Fall 2004-Fall 2010:
    - Paper evaluations administered in physical classroom
  - Fall 2011-present:
    - Asynchronous online forms via University website

- **Likert 1-5 Scale Survey:**
  - 15 standard questions
  - 10-30 questions specific to colleges/departments
Do online evaluations result in lower participation and lower evaluations?

Do only ‘axe-to-grind’ students complete evaluations?

Overall, are online courses rated lower that ‘live’ classes?
Teaching Factors on Their Minds.....
Faculty Course Evaluation Process

☑ Importance of course evaluations
   ➢ Ascertain factors impacting students’ learning
   ➢ Instructor enhances positive influencers and eliminates negative impactors

☑ Study Evaluation
   ➢ Mean scores for:
     ▪ “Overall Rating of the Instructor”
     ▪ “Overall I Rate This Course As”
Teaching Factors on Their Minds.....
Faculty Course Evaluation Process

- Instructor and course substance factors remained constant
- Evaluation platform for added variables’ impact on:
  - Course and instructor evaluations
  - Participation in evaluation process
Teaching Factors on Their Minds.....

Faculty Course Evaluation Process

- Regression Analysis evaluated overlapping variables:
  - Length of semester
  - Grade distribution of students in the classes
  - Class size

- Variables’ influencers difficult to identify (collectively or separately)
  - Omitted from study findings
Teaching Factors on Their Minds….. Faculty Course Evaluation Process

Research Questions:

- Is there a difference in response rates of paper versus online electronic evaluation forms?

- Is there a difference in course and instructor ratings depending upon a classroom (‘live’) or online course platform?
Teaching Factors on Their Minds.....
Faculty Course Evaluation Process

Findings: Is there a difference in response rates of paper versus online electronic evaluation forms?*

- **PAPER** consistently higher evaluation response rates over **ONLINE**
  - **Paper Forms:**
    - Fall 2004- Summer 2011: 80%-94% Student Response Rates
    - Mean weighted participation response rates: 87.08%
  - **Online Forms:**
    - Summer 2012-Summer 2014: 65.4%-74% Student Response Rates
    - Mean weighted participation response rates: 68.76%

*Note: See all percentage response rates in Table 1 Attached*
Teaching Factors on Their Minds..... Faculty Course Evaluation Process

Findings: Is there a difference in course and instructor ratings depending upon a classroom (‘live’) or online course platform?*

- Instructor-led, in-classroom courses rated higher on both dimensions versus asynchronous online classes
  - Mean Instructor rating--‘Live’ class = 4.39
  - Mean Instructor rating-- Online classes = 3.99
  - Mean ‘Live’ Course rating = 4.13
  - Mean Online Course rating = 3.79

*Note: See all percentage response rates in Table 1 Attached
Conclusions:

- Instructor’s in-classroom presence positively contributes to higher ratings of Instructor and Course
  - Findings supported by Morrison’s (2013) literature review
- In-classroom students score Instructor and Course higher than same-course online students
  - Administrators should consider findings in faculty evaluations (Zabaleta, 2007)
Teaching Factors on Their Minds….. Faculty Course Evaluation Process

Final Thoughts

- Findings similar to non-agricultural studies
- Administrators’ awareness of instructor and course ratings influenced by multiple variables
- Factor Instructor Ratings in course platform determination?
  - Live? or Online?
- Sans full student participation:
  - Future students lose peers’ input-benefit for content enhancement
  - Instructors lose dynamic focus-area improvement
Teaching on Our Minds......
Thank you!
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester Term and Year</th>
<th>Teaching Mode</th>
<th>Evaluation Mode</th>
<th>Student Enrollment</th>
<th>Student Response Rate:</th>
<th>Instructor Rating</th>
<th>Course Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall 2004</td>
<td>Live</td>
<td>Paper</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>90.48%</td>
<td>3.77</td>
<td>3.79</td>
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<tr>
<td>Summer 2007</td>
<td>Live</td>
<td>Paper</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>93.33%</td>
<td>4.66</td>
<td>4.74</td>
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<tr>
<td>Summer 2008</td>
<td>Live</td>
<td>Paper</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>80.00%</td>
<td>4.50</td>
<td>4.55</td>
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<tr>
<td>Summer 2009</td>
<td>Live</td>
<td>Paper</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>88.89%</td>
<td>4.28</td>
<td>3.85</td>
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<tr>
<td>Summer 2010</td>
<td>Live</td>
<td>Paper</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>94.29%</td>
<td>4.57</td>
<td>4.23</td>
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<tr>
<td>Summer 2011</td>
<td>Blended</td>
<td>Paper</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>80.21%</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
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</table>

**Weighted Means: Paper Form Response Rate and Live Class Ratings**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Summer 2012</td>
<td>Asynchronous</td>
<td>On-line</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>66.13%</td>
<td>4.13</td>
<td>3.83</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spring 2013</td>
<td>Asynchronous</td>
<td>On-line</td>
<td>171</td>
<td>71.35%</td>
<td>3.53</td>
<td>3.41</td>
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<tr>
<td>Summer 2013</td>
<td>Asynchronous</td>
<td>On-line</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>67.24%</td>
<td>4.03</td>
<td>3.74</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fall 2013</td>
<td>Asynchronous</td>
<td>On-line</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>68.50%</td>
<td>4.05</td>
<td>3.84</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spring 2014</td>
<td>Asynchronous</td>
<td>On-line</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>65.41%</td>
<td>4.15</td>
<td>4.01</td>
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<tr>
<td>Summer 2014</td>
<td>Asynchronous</td>
<td>On-line</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>73.97%</td>
<td>4.43</td>
<td>4.22</td>
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**Weighted Means: Electronic Form Response Rate and Online Class and Instructor Ratings**

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