

Making Sense of Student Evaluation Feedback

Resources on interpreting your evaluations

The first three resources listed below can be found online at <http://www3.interscience.wiley.com/journal/86511724/issue>.

1. Franklin, Jennifer (2001). "Interpreting the Numbers: Using a Narrative to Help Others Read Student Evaluations of Your Teaching Accurately." *Techniques and Strategies for Interpreting Student Evaluations: New Directions for Teaching and Learning* no. 87 (pp. 85-99). San Francisco: Jossey-Bass.
2. Lewis, Karron G. (2001). "Making Sense of Student Written Comments." *Techniques and Strategies for Interpreting Student Evaluations: New Directions for Teaching and Learning* no. 87 (pp. 17-24). San Francisco: Jossey-Bass.
3. Svinicki, Marilla D. (2001). "Encouraging Your Students to Give Feedback." *Techniques and Strategies for Interpreting Student Evaluations: New Directions for Teaching and Learning* no. 87 (pp. 17-24). San Francisco: Jossey-Bass.
4. Ory, John C., and Christopher P. Migotsky. (2006). "Getting the Most Out of Your Student Ratings of Instruction." *Association for Psychological Science Observer* 19(7). <http://www.psychologicalscience.org/observer/getArticle.cfm?id=2020>

Also, the Center for Teaching and Learning at Stanford University has published "Interpreting and Working with Your Course Evaluations," <http://ctl.stanford.edu/interpret.pdf>. For each of the rating questions on Stanford's course evaluation form, this guide shares several strategies teachers might use to improve their scores on the question. Some of these questions overlap with ones used on Vanderbilt forms.

In a collaboration with the Professional and Organizational Development (POD) Network, the IDEA Center has published similar sets of strategies tied to common evaluation questions, <http://www.theideacenter.org/node/64>.

Summaries (and a critique) of research on student evaluations

5. Kaplan, Matthew, Lisa A. Mets, and Constance E. Cook (no date). "Questions Frequently Asked About Student Rating Forms: Summary of Research Findings." University of Michigan Center for Research on Learning and Teaching, <http://www.crlt.umich.edu/tstrategies/studentratingfaq.php>

6. Kulik, James A. (2001). "Student Ratings: Validity, Utility, and Controversy." *The Student Ratings Debate: Are They Valid? How Can We Best Use Them? New Directions for Institutional Research* no. 109 (pp. 9-25). San Francisco: Jossey-Bass.
7. Theall, Michael and Jennifer Franklin (2001). "Looking for Bias in All the Wrong Places: A Search for Truth or a Witch Hunt in Student Ratings of Instruction?" *The Student Ratings Debate: Are They Valid? How Can We Best Use Them? New Directions for Institutional Research* no. 109 (pp. 45-56). San Francisco: Jossey-Bass.
8. Trout, Paul (2000). "Flunking the Test: The Dismal Record of Student Evaluations." *Academe* 86(4): 58-61.
<http://www.aaup.org/AAUP/pubsres/academe/2000/JA/Feat/trou.htm>