

Dear Colleagues,

Do you want to know in what ways your students feel intellectually engaged and challenged in your courses? Would you like to know what experiences in your courses lead to growth in their motivation to learn?

The CTL, in conjunction with John Nugent and the Office of Institutional Research, is again offering faculty members the opportunity to understand their individual classrooms from their students' perspectives through a short "Intellectual Challenge in the Classroom" supplemental course survey.

This survey focuses on high-impact practices identified by the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) as well as the Wabash National Study (WNS), including experiences that predict growth in the motivation of Connecticut College students. As you know, Connecticut College's data from the WNS contained some provocative indications of how our students experience the College's academic program overall, but the study did not offer individual faculty members a lot of insight into students' experiences in any particular course. **This supplemental survey's sole purpose is to offer individual faculty members more insight into their own courses and teaching.**

Over the past ten semesters, over 70 different faculty colleagues from across the disciplines have used this survey, many over multiple courses and semesters. We have helped faculty obtain information from 250 different courses gathered from over 4,800 student surveys. Participants have found the information they garnered about their courses very valuable, and have overwhelmingly recommended that the CTL continue to offer this optional supplemental student survey to augment the All-Campus Evaluation (ACE).

The Spring 2015 survey again consists of a single, double-sided page of 16 multiple choice and three open-ended questions that students should be able to complete in 5 to 8 minutes. The responses will be summarized by the Office of Institutional Research and will remain confidential. Faculty members will receive a report with the results of their own surveys and with appropriate masked comparisons to other courses. Results may be summarized for discussion purposes, but without instructor names, course numbers, or other identifiers.

I have enclosed a PDF of the survey for those who are interested in seeing or using it, as well as suggested instructions for administering it.

**** If you are interested in administering the survey, you can either make copies on your own using that enclosed PDF or the CTL will be happy to provide you with packets that include printed copies of the survey for each of your courses. Either way, please let me know via email red@conncoll.edu as soon as possible if you intend to administer it. ****

If you have any questions, please contact me via email or at x2122.

Thanks for considering participating.

Best,

Michael

Michael Reder

Director, Faculty Center for Teaching & Learning