

Annual Report for CET (Committee for Effective Teaching), 2017-2018

In addition to discussions via e-mail, CET met two times during the academic year of 2017-2018.

The committee met: 2/22/18 and 5/10/18

Additionally, the committee chair, Joel Dittmer, met with a number of people across campus. He met with an Associate Provost as well as Neil Outar from Title IX, who also serves as the campus Chief Diversity Officer. Furthermore, he met with Larry Gragg's committee (mandated from the UM system) on teaching effectiveness a number of times, including participating in a climate survey for students at the Havener Center.

In terms of the meetings of CET, a number of issues were discussed. The more important of the meetings was the one held on 2/22/18. The minutes/report of the meeting can be found on the Faculty Senate's website.

Main concerns attended to were as follows:

1. How do we continue to increase the number of responses on teaching evaluations?
2. Recognizing the importance of mid-semester evaluations.
3. Responding to worries the junior faculty with low student enrollment still be recognized for their teaching achievements.
4. **MOST SERIOUS:** "Inappropriate comments as well as atrocious comments threatening physical harm have been made by students in their evaluations of instructors. What to do about this?"
In looking through the previously submitted report to the faculty senate, one can see how this committee has decided to handle this very important issue.

The committee did decide that it was appropriate to add a civility statement to the evaluations, so that students would be reminded or made aware of their seriousness. The civility statement reads: "The faculty of Missouri S&T appreciates your feedback on the quality of instruction you receive here at the university. In order to best reflect your evaluations of our teaching, we request honest, professional, and civil responses."

5. We also met to talk with Neil Outar and Angie Hammons concerning how to appropriately go about a campus climate survey with respect to teaching evaluations (in terms of the prevalence of hateful and threatening language used by students against faculty). Overall, the committee is worried about privacy issues on the part of faculty, but are also concerned with incidents of faculty being threatened.

Finally, Joel Dittmer, the Chair of CET announced in May of 2018 that he will no longer be chair of the committee effective Aug. 31, 2018.