

# The University Senate of Michigan Technological University

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## **PROPOSAL 5-99**

### **AMENDMENT TO TEACHING EVALUATION POLICY: STUDENT RATINGS OF INSTRUCTION**

The Senate recommends that:

- Michigan Technological University replace its current mechanism for gaining a student rating of instruction, the IDEA system from Kansas State University, with an internally administered evaluation instrument. The Center for Teaching, Learning, and Faculty Development shall administer and process this instrument in accord with established University procedures.
- During the 1998-99 academic year, the Center, in consultation, with the Instructional Policy Committee, shall examine the overall responses obtained from students with the goal of determining the efficacy of the individual questions. If necessary, modifications of individual questions shall be proposed to the Senate in order to advance the goal of providing information to faculty members that helps improve their teaching.
- Also during the 1998-99 academic year, the Center for Teaching, Learning and Faculty Development, in consultation with the Instructional Policy Committee, shall study means of organizing and reporting the data generated from student responses. A report should be brought to the Senate on this subject no later than the Fall quarter of the 1999-2000 academic year.
- The Senate reaffirms the position that the primary purpose of conducting student ratings of instruction is to provide information that may assist faculty in the improvement of their teaching activities. While recognizing that information from student teaching evaluations is used in both tenure and promotion decisions and in the determination of merit pay increases, the Senate requires that no more than 50 percent of any evaluation of teaching should rest on this instrument.

**Adopted by Senate: October 7, 1998**

**Approved by President: December 17, 1998**