## Dear Colleagues,

During the 2022-23 academic year, a Labor-Management (LM) committee finalized a revised set of questions for course ratings by students. These questions were deployed in the Fall 23 semester and will be used again this semester. The labor-management team has been reviewing and continues to review the instrument based on the results.

Students can complete the ratings of their courses between April 16<sup>th</sup> and April 30<sup>th</sup>. (Law school student can complete the ratings of their course between April 16<sup>th</sup> and April 25<sup>th</sup>). CITS will provide several reminders, including the initial email announcement, MyCourses notifications, and daily email reminders.

One stated concern that this effort hopes to address is the low response rate that has been noted across several classes. The following as some best practices for faculty in encouraging students to fill out these ratings:

- 1. Set aside time during class for students to fill out the ratings. The ratings are accessible via mobile phones; students may be encouraged to bring laptops on a specific day where time is set aside for the ratings. The attached graphic is a screenshot of what the students see during the evaluation period. Put it up on the overhead and demonstrate where students should go. Once you start that class time devoted to ratings and have addressed any technical issues, plan to leave the classroom.
- Faculty members can track response rates for their courses
  at <a href="https://courseval.umassd.edu/">https://courseval.umassd.edu/</a>, but will not be able to see individual
  responses. Please highlight the importance to students in class that this is their
  opportunity to provide faculty with anonymous feedback to identify what worked and
  didn't work this semester.
- 3. Do not give students their final grades until after the last day of classes. This is meant to be as much of a double-blind as possible. They don't have final grades when they fill them out you can't see them until after you have submitted your grades.

Full access to ratings will be released based on an institutional metric of the percentage of total grades submitted by instructors, notably when 95% of course grades have been submitted.

Please Note: This graphic was created for demonstration- that date is not legitimate date!

