UCUE

SIRS Replacement Task Force

(Student Perceptions of Learning Survey-SPLS)

Update 10/9/2023

***Brief Review:***

* Student Perceptions of Learning Environments Policy (SPLEP) and Procedures document was approved by administration in spring 2023.
* The 8 University-level survey questions were approved by administration (SLPS).
* A Provost level communication went out to the Deans in late spring 2023 in which they were asked to begin the process of forming or delegating committees to develop College/department-level questions/protocols related to questions and processes.
* Colleges/departments were provided with a question bank and some guidance for choices of additional questions to consider in exploration work with their representatives.
* There are approximately 268 questions in the bank- organized according to themes: overall, clarity, organization, interaction, learning atmosphere, engagement, assessment, perceived learning, demonstrate understanding.
* Colleges/departments needed to provide the name of a college representative by April 21st for the formation of SPLS College/Department Liaison Group.
  + The Liaison group started meeting in September and is scheduled to meet once per month thru the fall semester.
  + Agendas include system/project updates, discussions, and Q&A

***Professional Development:***

* An informational workshop was offered at the MSU Spring Conference on Teaching and Learning, *Implementation of the Student Perceptions of Learning Environments Policy (SPLEP) and Student Perceptions of Learning Survey (SPLS)* by Pete Savolainen (May 11).
* Presented a webinar in the Student Success Summer Series for advisors and other academic staff, *The New SPLS: Equipping Students to Make Informed Decisions about Course Selection* (Aug 11).
* Presented in a workshop for graduate assistants on *Feedback for Instruction and Student Perceptions of Learning Survey* hosted by Stefanie Baier (Sept 13)
* Presentation to the Academic Leadership Fellows group (Sept 26).
* SLPS information will be included in four Thrive Series sessions and the Leadership Institutes for chairs/associate deans about annual evaluation and RPT/promotions.
* Presentation will be included as part of Career Conversations on October 25th for faculty.
* SPLS website development, which is continually updated by the project implementation team.  <https://spls.msu.edu/>
* SLPS Office Hours are on Tuesdays at 10am for students, instructors, graduate teaching assistants, staff, and administrators with questions. (see <https://spls.msu.edu/>)
* According to the provost’s annual letter, summative course evaluations should not be the sole means by which teaching is evaluated. Presenting other materials related to teaching annually for promotion/review allows for more holistic assessments.

***Implementation:***

* Pilot use of SPLS began in the summer semesters, with implementation/official launch campus wide in fall semester 2023.
* Pilot SPLS data sent to summer instructors with continual project team support and monitoring for issues/challenges.
* College and department dashboards have not been finalized and published yet.
* Important onboarding dates for colleges, departments, schools that are planning on adding up to 12 questions to the SPLS need to send their survey questions through their college liaison to the Office of Faculty and Academic Staff Development (OFASD) in advance of the term in which they will be implemented.
  + *Spring 2024*: deadline is December 5, 2023
  + *Summer 2024*: deadline is April 22, 2024
  + *Fall 2024*: deadline is August 5, 2024

***Reminders:***

* The SIRSOnline system reached its technical end-of-life date quite some time ago, and the system is not being maintained to allow resources to shift to the new SPLS system. Access to SIRS data availability was Sept 30th but can continue beyond Sept 30th while the process of winding down the SIRSOnline to is complete unless until there is a system failure because it will not be fixed.

***Resources****:*

Website: SPLS information and policy documents are available via  <https://spls.msu.edu/>

SPLS Office Hours:  
Questions about SPLS? Office hours are available for students, instructors, graduate teaching assistants, staff, and administrators are welcome to join the SPLS office hours on zoom on Tuesdays at 10am. A join link is sent to your MSU email after you complete the registration. Click on the registration link on the SPLS website.