

The UAF Faculty Senate passed the following at Meeting #173 on March 7, 2011:

MOTION:

The UAF Faculty Senate, upon the recommendation of the Faculty Development, Assessment

and Improvement Committee, moves to approve the following actions:

- New electronic student evaluations will not be implemented without Faculty Senate approval.
- More research on this issue will be done at the administrative level in order to complement the FDAI committee's concerns and recommendations (attached).

Effective: Immediately

Rationale: During extensive discussions in the Faculty Development, Assessment and Improvement Committee, areas were identified that indicate that some aspects of online

Attachment to Motion submitted by the FDAI Committee:

To: Faculty Senate
From: James Clark, FDAI

This is a summary of what has been discussed in our committee regarding the pros and cons of

electronic student evaluations. Committee member Melanie Arthur deserves special credit for digging more deeply into this issue, and compiling and summarizing some crucial data (see below). Attached are the two articles that best illustrate the current unreliable state of online surveys of teaching.¹

- The first attached article compares modes of administration (paper vs online), finding a huge difference in response rates for in-class versus online evaluations (70% versus 29%, in the absence of special incentives for online evaluators). They included two additional groups of online evaluations, one in which the instructor provided an in-class demo of the online evaluation