

Evaluation Book Would Be Helpful

“The Other Side of the Fence”

The Faculty Senate is working on a project that helps put the relationship between faculty and students into proper perspective.

Faculty are being paid to teach. This means they have a right to serious, persistent (not necessarily “bright”) students.

The Faculty Senate plan involves putting together a booklet of student evaluations to enable faculty to choose students based on an evaluation “grade” that the students received from past teachers.

The evaluation booklet will include positive and negative comments and a rating of the student’s overall performance.

This way, faculty do not have a class without having any knowledge of what their students are really like, and this is only fair.

Faculty are being paid minimal salaries for their work and have a right to know what students are like before committing themselves to teaching a course.

This is an idea totally original to the Faculty Senate. To our knowledge, no similar procedures exist at other schools, even prestigious as Harvard and Princeton.

We are sure there are many students who strongly disagree with the proposed Faculty Senate evaluation booklet. But it seems that those are probably the ones who are afraid the results will severely decrease the number of teachers who are willing to accept them in their classes.

There are some students who give perform poorly on tests, have a poor attendance record, display an incomplete grasp of a subject, fail to prepare adequately for class or just don’t seem to care about their learning.

It is these students that faculty members have a right to be warned about so that they are not entering into a course with no notion of what to expect.

Good students have nothing to fear.