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Valuing the Undervalued: Professional Development for Chairs and Adjuncts

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Primary Presenter:

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Title of presentation:

Where Have the Tenured Gone? Developing and Evaluating Adjunct Faculty

Abstract

Adjunct instructors teach 60% of the courses offered in U.S. colleges and universities (U.S. Department of Education, 2010). What methods can chairs use to support, develop, and evaluate contingent faculty? IDEA Education's multi-faceted student ratings system will be described followed by guided discussion of participants' experiences on their campuses.

WORD COUNT: 49

Keywords: adjunct faculty; part-time faculty; faculty development; faculty evaluation; student ratings of instruction

Presentation topic: evaluation and assessment

Target audience: all department chairs

Type of presentation: paper

Purpose of session: To describe IDEA Education's multi-faceted student ratings system and discuss how to support, develop, and evaluate contingent faculty

Description of session:

Adjunct instructors teach 60% of the courses offered in U.S. colleges and universities (U.S. Department of Education, 2010). What methods can chairs use to support, develop, and evaluate contingent faculty? IDEA Education's multi-faceted student ratings system will be described. Discussions will initially focus on the suggested use of IDEA's three student ratings forms: the 47-item *Diagnostic* form, the 18-item *IDEA Learning* form, and the new 12-item *IDEA Teaching* form. Research behind development of the new instrument will be briefly described, including results of Bayesian Model Averaging performed on 490,333 college and university classes. The presenter will then lead participants in guided small group discussion of methods chairs have used on their campuses to support, develop, and evaluate contingent faculty. The session will conclude with a large group discussion of best practices.

WORD COUNT: 131

Audio-visual equipment: None other than what is normally provided