The Office of Professional Development: 2023 Spring Convocation Survey Results

I. Introduction

This summary provides an overview of the feedback received from faculty and staff who participated in the professional development sessions during spring convocation. The survey results will help us understand the effectiveness of the training sessions offered, and identify areas for improvement in our professional development programs.

The survey was designed to gather feedback on various aspects of the professional development sessions, including the relevance of the topics covered, the quality of the instructors, and the overall satisfaction with the sessions and convocation format. The survey opened on 01/18/2023 and closed on 01/23/2023. A link was emailed to all full-time faculty.   The survey responses indicate a high level of positivity, despite the low response rate of only 25 out of 131 requests. Despite the small sample size, the responses are valuable in providing insight into the experiences of the instructors and can be used to inform future convocation sessions. Overall, the results demonstrate that the majority of instructors who participated in the survey had a positive experience and valued the opportunity to come together and share their knowledge and expertise.

II. Overview

The 2023 Spring Convocation Survey aimed to gather feedback from faculty members who attended the event and sessions. Out of the 131 faculty surveyed, 25 provided responses, allowing us to gain insights into the overall satisfaction and areas for improvement for future convocations.

III. Key findings

    a.   Likert Scale Questions:

The event was generally well-received by the participants, with the majority of respondents agreeing or strongly agreeing that the event was well-organized, the presenters were knowledgeable in the subject matter, the sessions were an appropriate length, and the variety of topics was satisfactory. However, there were also some respondents who disagreed or strongly disagreed with these statements, indicating areas for improvement. Additionally, a slightly lower number of participants strongly agreed that the event length was appropriate and the sessions will improve their skills or courses, suggesting that these areas may also be worth further attention.

    b.   Open Ended Questions: Regarding the event

The iDesign event was well received by the participants, with a variety of aspects being highlighted as most liked. The information provided to faculty and staff, professional environment and organization, the option to attend online, great timing and scheduling, the opportunity to prep classes, the variety of sessions that included topics like wellness and diversity, the option for in-person or online attendance, the ability to work on other obligations during the day, and the different topics covered were all highly rated. Additionally, the Ed Puzzle session was also well received and the opportunity to interact with faculty from other campuses was appreciated.

The least liked aspect of the event was technical issues, particularly with Zoom and the YouTube link not allowing participants to see the presentation on the Smartboard. Additionally, some participants expressed dissatisfaction with the lack of technical interest/involvement and the fact that some sessions were too long and difficult to pick. Some participants also wished for more time

to attend all the presentations, and found the schedule emailed was confusing. Others found the insistence that you must Zoom from your home campus to be considered present and people talking over the presenters during the live session as an issue. Some participants also felt some presenters were not 'well-knowledgeable' on the institution's basic information and were disappointed by the repetition of the same speakers. Some also felt that the event could have been condensed to two days or three days to allow for more time to work on their courses.

Overall, the event received positive feedback from the participants with many praising the organization, flow, and the in-person and Zoom option. However, there were also some suggestions for improvement such as recording all presentations, giving faculty more time to prepare for classes, having a joint event with staff, and providing food and snacks at all campuses, not just the Uvalde campus. Some participants also highlighted the need for shorter and more varied sessions, more Q&A and for questions from the audience to be relayed over the mic on the podium for those listening online. Additionally, there were requests to observe strict time limit for presentations and to include more technical interest/involvement.

> c. Open Ended Questions: Regarding the sessions

The iDesign and EdPuzzle sessions were the most popular among participants, with many praising their usefulness and the opportunity to learn new skills. The Opening and Diversity sessions were also well-received, as well as the Self-Care and Canvas updates sessions. Additionally, a significant number of responses also highlighted the value of the Faculty Success Activities Lab/EOY Checklist, Course Design, Simple Syllabus, Planning and Self-Study, QM/Measurable, Precise, Consistent and Clear Objectives and class prep time. Overall, the majority of the participants found these sessions to be informative and beneficial.

The majority of the participants found all of the sessions to be informative and beneficial, and there were no specific sessions that were identified as least enjoyable. However, some participants highlighted that they would have liked to attend all the sessions but didn't have availability to do so. Additionally, a small number of participants found the Skills USA presentation to be less enjoyable and/or less useful to them due to the timing and the fact that it wasn't relevant to their department or role. Additionally, some participants found the iDesign sessions to be too many and felt like it was taking over convocation, and others found the self-care and course design sessions to be less helpful.

The majority of the participants would like more hands-on training on specific tools such as iDesign, Watermark, Self-Service and Canvas, while requests for extended training in Universal Design for Learning for online/hybrid instructors and Quality Matters Objective-based assessment design were noted. In addition, requests were made for trainings dealing with emotional intelligence, learning styles, project-based learning, and continuation of sessions dealing with wellness, faculty and staff support, student engagement, student evaluations, writing skills, and new and latest technologies and advances in the teaching field. Additionally, some participants would like to see separate live presenters for each campus to help with training and checklist preparation, and others would like to see sessions on paperwork and documentation changes and updates with specific and detailed timelines.

V. Action plan

There are several actions that can be taken to address the low survey response rate, event length and to address the concern regarding sessions which did not improve faculty skills or course delivery:

1.   Increase outreach and engagement: Provide more information about the survey, reach out to more participants by sending follow-up invitations to participate, and make the survey process more convenient and user-friendly by increasing the survey response timeline.

2.   Review event length: Based on the feedback received, adjusts to the timing of the event to better meet the needs of all involved.

3.   Review session content: Review the content of the sessions to ensure they align with the goals of the participants and that they will improve their skills or courses. Consider incorporating more interactive activities or hands-on training to enhance the participants' learning experience.

4.   Follow-up and evaluation: Regularly follow-up with the participants through their Division Chairs and evaluate the effectiveness of the sessions to ensure they are achieving the desired outcomes. Use this feedback to make any necessary adjustments to future sessions.

5.   Communicate with the participants: Communicate with the participants regarding the actions taken based on the feedback received, and how it will improve their experience in the next event.

VI. Conclusion

In conclusion, the Spring convocation survey results provide valuable insight into the experiences of the instructors who participated in the sessions. Despite the low response rate, the results demonstrate a high level of positivity, with the majority of instructors agreeing or strongly agreeing that the event was well-organized and the presenters were knowledgeable in the subject matter. However, the results also indicate areas for improvement, such as the event length and the effectiveness of the sessions in improving skills or courses.

We would like to thank all the faculty who participated in the survey and provided valuable feedback. We believe that this summary will be a valuable tool for the Office of Professional Development as we plan and implement future professional development programs. The feedback will help us continue to provide relevant and high-quality professional development opportunities for our faculty.

We are confident that this summary will provide valuable insights into the professional development needs of our faculty, and will help us to improve the quality of our training programs in the future. We look forward to implementing the feedback and continue to support the professional development of our faculty.

The results and the action plan for improvement will be communicated to all instructors via the Professional Development webpage and any feedback will be followed up. Again, we appreciate

the time and effort of the instructors who participated in the survey and look forward to continuing to work towards providing a valuable and enriching experience for all instructors.

For additional questions or comments, contact,

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Annexures:

Survey Data

Session Attendance Data

Spring Convocation 2023

Tuesday, January 10, 2023	Attendance #
Opening Sessions	129 (Not including YouTube live views)
Recruitment and Engagement	97
Allied Health and Human Service Division Meeting	34
Social and Behavioral Sciences Division Meeting	25
Arts and Sciences Division Meeting	20
Business, Industrial, & Technical Services Division Meeting	20
Wednesday, January 11, 2023	
Lessons from the Garner Institute	54
Canvas -Basic and Intermediate	45
Video Conference Updates	3
Universal Design- Process, Learning Principles, and Applications	25
EdPuzzle	61
Avoiding Burn-out Through Selfcare	54
iDesign: The Butterfly Effect	49
Canvas Lab	42
Faculty Success	47
Thursday, January 12, 2023	
Course Design/Show and Tell	93
Culturally Responsive Teaching at Hispanic Serving Institutions	12
Simple Syllabus	106
Lessons from the Garner Institute	33
How to be a One Take Wonder	79
Improving Student Engagement Lab	30
Planning and Self-Study	59

What convocation sessions did you attend? Choose all that apply.	The event was well organized.	The event length was appropriate	The presenters were knowledgeable in the subject matter	The sessions were an appropriate length	I am satisfied with the variety of topics	The sessions will improve my skills or course	What did you like most about the event?	What did you like least about the event?	Regarding the event, is there anything else you would like us to know?	What sessions did you enjoy the most or were of greatest value?	What sessions did you enjoy the least or were of little value?	What topics would you like to see more of in the future?
Opening Session;Update	Agree	Strongly Agree	Strongly Agree	Strongly Agree	Agree							
Diversity, Equity and Incl	Strongly Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Strongly Agree	iDesign	Zoom	Not really	iDesign and EdPuzzle	Not sure	More everything
Opening Session;Diversit	Strongly Agree	Strongly Agree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Strongly Agree	Agree	Good information provided to faculty/staff that we don't hear very often	on the youtube link you could not see the presenter's presentation on the Smartboard	no	Opening and Diversity	n/a	more staff related topics
Opening Session;Plannin	Strongly Agree	Strongly Agree	Strongly Agree	Strongly Agree	Strongly Agree	Agree	The professional environment and organization	N/A	Great Job!	Opening sessions	N/A	unsure
Opening Session;	Strongly Agree	Strongly Agree	Strongly Agree	Strongly Agree	Strongly Agree	Strongly Agree	Since it's a busy first week in our department, I enjoyed the option to attend online, so that I could continue to work from my desk while listening to the Opening Session.	The part I was MOST excited for - the Mascot - was not live-streamed.	It's helpful when questions from the audience are relayed over the mic on the podium so that those of us listening online can hear what the question from the audience was. Thank you!	N/A	Opening Session	N/A
Opening Session;Division	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	iDesign	NA	NA	iDesign	NA	NA
Opening Session;Division	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Great timing and scheduling	Lack of technical interest/involvement. Everything felt Academic based.	N/A	I design	N/A	Hands on
Opening Session;Diversit	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Agree	In person	Some were too long, and wish it was easier to just pick a session.	Make the sessions 30 minutes and offer variety.	Self Care	the simple syllabus	.
Opening Session;Division	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Disagree	I enjoyed all the different options available.	I wish we had more time so that I was able to attend all presentations	Excellent set up and flow. The snack room was delightful. In person and zoom option was excellent. I do wish that all presentations could have been recorded and posted so that we are able to view the material for presentations we were unable to attend. However, again the set up was wonderful.	The sessions that were of greatest value to me were those I attended: Opening Session, Division Meeting, Canvas Basic and Intermediate Skills, Canvas Lab, Edpuzzle, Avoiding Burn-Out through Self-Care, Faculty Success Activities Lab/EOY Checklist, Course Design, Simple Syllabus, Planning and Self-Study - OSIR	I believe each session had a tremendous value and wish I had availability to attend all.	Extended training on how to input iDesign, Watermark, specifics on canvas, etc.
Opening Session;Update	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Ability to Zoom sessions from office. Better able to hear and focus on speakers. Scheduled to allow office time each afternoon and on Friday.	Schedule that was emailed was a bit confusing.	Appreciate everyone who made the week run as smoothly as possible.	Canvas updates (always good; learn something new every time), iDesign, Self-Care	Learned something from all sessions. Least enjoyable was the Skills USA presentation. It was late in the day, we started late waiting for others to attend. Information was good. I know its especially meaningful and important for students, but nursing department (student/faculty) unfortunately has no real time to participate.	Emotional Intelligence; Learning Styles
Opening Session;Division	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	iDesign	liked all - I wish we had had more time to learn and implement Simple Syllabus.	Give faculty more time to prepare for classes.	Information during general session.	Enjoyed all; most had some value.	More on faculty and staff support.
Opening Session;Division	Strongly Agree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Strongly Agree	The opportunity to prep classes was very helpful.	The insistence that you must Zoom from your home campus to be considered present.	The inclusion of QM sessions (and Garner, etc.) was a nice way to incorporate PD.	QM and class prep time	N/a	Support and training for Universal Design for Learning for online/hybrid instructors Project-based learning Objective-based assessment design
Opening Session;Update	Strongly Agree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Strongly Agree	Agree	Agree	I liked that there was a variety of sessions that included topics like wellness and diversity.	Regarding the schedule, perhaps the sessions can be further condensed to 3 days and allow for Friday to be a day to work on our courses. Just a thought.	I appreciate the effort that went into planning the convocation as well as the presenters who were great. Thank you.	I liked the wellness and diversity sessions. It goes without saying that our division meeting is always enjoyable as well.	They were all great but the "one take wonder" session was probably the least helpful to me personally. However I do generally find the iDesign sessions to be quite useful.	More wellness sessions but also how to engage student participation.
Opening Session;Update	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	I am please we were able to attend our respective campuses on Wednesday through Friday.	People continue to talk over the presenters. Its always the same faculty. It's like they don't care that they are being rude.	I think there should be a joint event with staff as well.	There were all ok.	I think iDesign had too many sessions. I understand they are trying to sell their product, but it felt like they were taking over convocation.	I would like to have separate live presenters for each campus where faculty or staff can train us exactly how to use new programs. Give us two hours, and their job will be to help faculty get their checklist ready for the semester. This should be in the beginning of every day. Leave the extra sessions for the afternoon.
Opening Session;Update	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	only two days and able to attend via zoom	can't think of anything	not that I can think of	honestly enjoyed them all	n/a	unsure at this time
SKILLS USA;Canvas Basic	Agree	Agree	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Disagree	The option for in person or zoom	No complaints	Not at this time.	Canvas Lab, EdPuzzle, I design.	All had some value	Class engagement improvements with activities.
Opening Session;Division	Strongly Agree	Strongly Agree	Strongly Agree	Strongly Agree	Strongly Agree	Strongly Agree	We had different options to attend.	I had to much to do before the first day and needed more time.	N/A	Ed puzzles	N/A	N/A
Opening Session;Division	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Very informative, specially canvas and simple syllabus.	Zoom	Maybe everyone to attend in person rather then in some we still waist a lot of time with technical difficulties.	Simple syllabus. Welcoming everyone back and chatting with everyone.	I enjoyed all of our trainings.	Canvas, watermark , self-service
Diversity, Equity and Incl	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	can be attended online	technical troubles	strict observance with time length of presentation/s	Canvas updates, idesign, labs	N/A	student evaluations
Diversity, Equity and Incl	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	It was not all-day back-to-back events that becoming numbing. We were time to work on our other obligations part of the day.	DL sessions: Sense of disengagement Microphones sensitivity picked up too much distracting and loud chatter from the in-person audience The faculty attending via DL were just tiny images on the screen and that minimized their presences	Overall, good job	Canvas Basic and Intermediate Skills. Alyssa does a great job answering questions!	Course design	A refresher session on where forms are found on our numerous computer programs
Opening Session;Update	Strongly Agree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Strongly Agree	Strongly Agree	Strongly Agree	The Ed Puzzle offered useful information.	It may have been better combined into two days.	No.	Ed Puzzle	Self-care seemed like common knowledge.	Quality Matters that are difference/rotated each semester.
Opening Session;Update	Strongly Agree	Strongly Agree	Strongly Agree	Strongly Agree	Strongly Agree	Strongly Agree	different topics	travel	meals should be considered	self care	none	organization

Opening Session;Division Disagree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Disagree	Disagree	It was nice to be able to interact with faculty from other campuses. Unfortunately, this doesn't happen often.	We tend to hear from the same speakers often, like those from iDesign. When this occurs, we tend to receive the same information. We should be learning from multiple experts in the field of education, not the same ones.	Food should be given at the Eagle Pass and Del Rio campuses as well. Those of us who live out of town were required to drive to our main campus without any meals provided to us, unlike those at the Uvalde campus. It would be nice to feel included and part of the team.	Diversity and inclusion in the classroom was the best from this convocation, though in all honesty, it was information that we already knew. It was nice to have it reinforced though.	iDesign wasn't a fun session to attend. To be honest, I'm against the entire design as the home page looks bland and doesn't allow for creativity. A much cheaper alternative would have been to have division chairs, or perhaps a separate committee, verify that each faculty's Canvas page has the required material necessary for students to complete the course.	I would like to see more sessions over writing skills and how writing intensive assignments can benefit students in all areas.
Opening Session;Division Agree	Disagree	Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Agree	Agree	I enjoyed the sessions where the presenters were well-versed in their presentations.	I felt some presenters were trying to present institutional information, but when asked about it, they were not well-knowledgeable. I felt that few presenters in leadership positions did not know enough about the institution's basic information away from their talking points, and this raised my concerns about our institution.	I enjoyed the first day in person and the other sessions with the possibility of zoom link options. I would like for the other campuses besides Uvalde to offer free snacks and lunch for the faculty during convocation.	Measurable, Precise, Consistent and Clear Objectives	Division meeting.	I want sessions about new and latest technologies and advances for faculty in the teaching field, including the classroom. I also want sessions to inform us of what paperwork and documentation changes and updates will affect us with specific and detailed timelines.
Opening Session;Update Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Enjoyed sharing EdPuzzle and IDesign course	Opening Session was lengthy.	NA	Avoiding burnout was good	The one hit wonder session	Not sure