

Student Opinion of Instruction

Appendix A: Logic Flows for Key Operations

The flow charts contained within this document illustrate the process and logic flow associated with the proposed revisions to the Valdosta State University Student Opinion of Instruction (SOI) system. The system is intended to support mid-semester and end-of-semester surveying of students to gather feedback on factors affecting instructional quality of a course, e.g., instructor, content, environment, and interaction.

The flow chart below illustrates how faculty would access the SOI system. The flow charts on the subsequent pages illustrate the logic flow associated with each of the different system options available to the faculty and students, e.g., student view of surveys, browse existing survey questions, create a new survey, etc.



Browse Existing Questions



The purpose of this feature is to aid instructors in learning about what types of questions can and have been asked on a course survey.

Required information to be includes: (question number, category, question text, and the lower and upper anchors [if a closed-ended question])

When available, psychometric information for each of the questions stored within the survey database would be provided to the user.



The purpose of this feature is to aid instructors in quickly accessing and/or replicating previously used surveys.

In many cases, faculty create a survey once and then reuse it over and over. Having a "duplicate this survey" option would greatly facilitate faculty's willingness to adopt and utilize the online course survey system. It also gives them the ability to track changes in students' responses over time.

Create a New Survey



The purpose of this feature is support the authoring of course surveys for mid-term feedback.

Creation of a new survey 'from scratch' would be applicable only to mid-term surveys and should include the ability to include instructor-written questions (open- and closed-ended) and the use of existing questions shared in the survey question database (either by browsing for searching for question items). Once survey items have been added to a survey, the instructor could preview and edit the sequencing of the items to appear on the survey.

Mid-term surveys could contain any survey questions the instructor wishes. Since End-of-Semester surveys automatically would be created every semester users technically would not be creating them from scratch but would simply be editing an existing survey (although they would be able to carry out the same basic operations – write, browse, preview – as with surveys created from scratch. The big difference would be that End-of-Semester surveys would be forced to include any core/required survey items necessitated for faculty tenure and promotion purposes.



Update and Continue Editing

This feature is essentially the same as the 'Create Survey' feature with the exception that the survey appearing in this feature would be pre-populated with items from (i) an End-of-Semester survey's core/required items, (ii) a previously used survey's items or (iii) a survey that is "unpublished" but in the process of being created.

A survey becomes "published" once it is released to the students – this is done by setting the "open" and "close" survey dates for a survey. Once a survey is published, it cannot be edited.

View Results of a Survey



Through this feature, faculty and administrators could access the results from any 'closed' surveys. For any 'open' surveys, they could view results to date for any Mid-term surveys; but for End-of-Semester surveys they would only be able to see how many responses they've received to date. No other results would be available to them until the survey closed at the end of the semester.

While viewing their end-of-semester survey results (for closed surveys), faculty should be able to compare their results on the "core/required" survey items with the averages for one or more of the following groups:

- * College-wide
- * Department-wide
- * Course-Trend
 - previous survey results for the same course number -or- by the same instructor over last 5 years.

Student View of Survey



The student view of the online course survey system is intentionally simplistic. In short, they can view all of their available surveys at once (regardless of which course they used to access the system). From this list of surveys, they can access and complete any survey available to them.