

To: FIU Faculty

From: Meredith Newman, Vice Provost for Faculty and Global Affairs  
Isis Artze-Vega, Assistant Vice President, Teaching & Learning

Date: December 20, 2017

Subject: **SPOTs: Student Perceptions of Teaching surveys Results are Ready for Viewing**

Congratulations on completing this challenging term! This semester, course evaluations – now known as SPOTs: Student Perceptions of Teaching surveys – were administered online university wide. One benefit of this move online is that we are now able to provide the survey results in a more timely fashion.

The report that contains the survey results for each course you taught this semester is now available, and it includes both quantitative and qualitative feedback from students. You can navigate directly to your SPOTs Dashboard through the email, which was sent to you on December 20, or you can access the [FIU Business Intelligence](#) website.

To support you in navigating and interpreting the new SPOTs report, the Center for the Advancement of Teaching created a guide, [Interpreting & Working with SPOTs Results: A Guide for Faculty](#). For those of you seeking assistance in thinking about ways to enhance your teaching in response to students' feedback, it also includes brief explanations of each survey question, connecting each to research, resources, and suggestions.

At the end of the guide, you will find a description of proposed next steps in the broader Evaluating Teaching project, which was initiated by Provost Furton in recognition of the crucial role that teaching plays in student success, and the limitations of our current mechanisms for evaluating and incentivizing excellent teaching.

Note that the Evaluating Teaching workgroup proposed changing the name of our course ratings system from SAI: Student Assessment of Instruction to SPOTs: Student Perceptions of Teaching surveys in recognition that the results are *perceptions* as opposed to assessments of teaching. In addition, it is our hope that SPOTs results, together with other measures of teaching effectiveness, will help guide you in refining your teaching and be used in a more comprehensive teaching evaluation process.

Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions, concerns, or suggestions related to this important endeavor. For technical issues or concerns, please email [psbi@fiu.edu](mailto:psbi@fiu.edu).