

## **Peer Observation of Teaching/ Student Evaluation of Course and Instructor**

From “Our Vision” (*Rising to the challenge: Preparing excellent professionals*, 2004, p. 13). College faculty achieve this vision by:

- “Providing instruction at the undergraduate, masters, and doctoral levels that models empirically validated best practice, and challenges learners to aspire to excellence. Students and other faculty in the University and College of Education recognize the teaching of the faculty for demonstrating knowledgeable, relevant, and motivating course instruction at all levels.”

Two systems of observation and evaluation are in place to support faculty in their growth as teachers and to measure their effectiveness:

1. the Peer Observation of Teaching process which is described on the following pages, and
2. the UNC Charlotte Faculty Evaluation

All faculty are expected to conduct the **UNC Charlotte Faculty Evaluation** for each course each semester, following University guidelines. A sample of the evaluation instrument is included in this Handbook, along with directions for administering the course evaluation. The evaluation packets for each specific course will be distributed to faculty members shortly before the end of the Fall and Spring semesters. The students’ confidential responses are returned to the Dean’s Office where analyses are completed. Faculty receive copies of the evaluation results, with copies to the chairs and dean, at the beginning of the next semester.

*Helpful hint: The UNC Charlotte Faculty Evaluation instrument provides the option for narrative comments on the back of the opscan sheet. Many faculty find the narrative comments to be even more helpful than the numerical ratings as useful information to strengthen teaching. Faculty are therefore encouraged to encourage their students to add narrative comment to the evaluation.*

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