ACADEMIC QUALITY COMMITTEE (REVISED VERSION, MARCH 29TH, 2012)

The Academic Quality Committee submits the following consent item for consideration:

The Academic Quality Committee recommends that we move our student course evaluations online using a third-party vendor selected through a competitive bid process, if feasible, in the fall of 2012 or as expediently as the process allows. After this takes place, there will be a two-year implementation process during which WKU will test a number of new evaluation instruments. When this process is complete, WKU will select and implement a new student-instructor course evaluation instrument of record.

The instrument of record for course evaluations during the implementation process itself will be the current SITEs. During the first academic year of the implementation process, SITE evaluations will be delivered online in order to establish a data control set. During the second academic year of the implementation process, the Office of Institutional Research in collaboration with the Division of Information Technology will also pilot test several other public domain instruments (to be named later by the Academic Quality Committee in consultation with the Faculty Welfare and Professional Responsibilities Committee) that have already been tested for reliability and validity by other universities, including the SEEQ (Students' Evaluation of Educational Quality). Once the data from the testing period are available, the University Senate will recommend one instrument to be retained for use as the instrument of record in future online student-instructor course evaluations.

The Academic Quality Committee will keep the University Senate briefed on the progress of this initiative in order to ensure transparency and offer ample opportunity for faculty input as the transition moves forward.