The Student Senate
Texas A&M University

S.B. 65-16

The Student Senate
65th Session
Texas A&M University

Introduced By: Academic Affairs Chair Tyler Mandry, Engineering
Senator Rachel Smith, Agriculture and Life Sciences
Senator Nicholas Phelps, Off Campus
Senator Rebecca McCreary, Geosciences

Action Taken: PASSED 11/28/12

Certified By: Scott A. Bowen
Speaker of the Senate

Duly Approved: John L. Claybrook
Student Body President

Increased Awareness of Online Teaching Evaluations Bill

"A bill requesting that the University make an effort to increase student awareness of the importance of end-of-semester student evaluations of teachers."

Whereas(1): Many professors utilize the feedback from teacher evaluations to improve their teaching; and,

Whereas(2): While not perfect, our current teaching evaluation system is the most effective way for students to give professors valuable feedback on teaching; and,

Whereas(3): Students consider giving feedback on teaching important, but do not see any evidence of their feedback on teacher evaluations being utilized; and,

Whereas(4): Research by Data and Research Services has shown that the biggest impact on student participation in teaching evaluations is their perceived effectiveness; and,

Whereas(5): The state of Texas mandates that the University make the results of student teacher evaluations available online within 3 clicks of the University home page; and,
Whereas(6): While the University does comply with the mandate, the evaluations are difficult to find and there are no direct links which say "Teaching Evaluations" or anything to that effect; and,

Whereas(7): Most students are unaware that the evaluations are available online.

Therefore
Let it be
Enacted(1): That the student body requests that a link to teaching evaluations (with the text "Teaching evaluations" or similar) be placed in the following online locations:

- Howdy Portal, under the My Record tab beneath the Search Class Schedule link,
- academics.tamu.edu, near the top of the page,
- www.tamu.edu, at the bottom of the page under Academic Resources; and,

Let it be
Further
Enacted(2): That these links go directly to a page where students can look up professors and find their teaching evaluations.

Let it be
Further
Enacted(3): That a copy of this bill shall be sent to:

- Dr. Ann Kenimer, Associate Provost for Undergraduate Studies
- Dr. Pam Matthews, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs
- Dr. John Stallone, Speaker of Faculty Senate
- Dr. Mark Troy, Associate Director of Data and Research Services
- Mr. Joe Pettibon, II, Associate Vice President for Academic Services