

Suggestions on How to Increase SSI Response Rates

Have a contest

- The director of the Medical Laboratory Technology Program, Valerie Polansky, challenged her instructors to see who could generate the highest response rate from their students taking the Student Survey of Instruction. The instructor with the highest response rate was recognized during a faculty meeting at the end of the semester.

Send a letter to your students

- The Dean of the College of Technology and Management, Shri Goyal, composed a letter to his students requesting their participation in the SSI. Below is a copy of his letter for reference.

Dear student,

The Student Survey of Instruction (SSI) is a very important feedback tool for St. Petersburg College. These surveys enable the college to improve the quality of instruction, programs, your future classes, and help us meet your educational expectations.

In order for these surveys to be statistically meaningful and assist us in making improvements, a large majority of our students must complete these surveys. We need specific details about what the majority of students like and dislike in their courses, in order to affect positive changes.

I know that some students are uncomfortable completing surveys. But, please know that your help is needed and:

- The individual survey results – although connected through your course – are not accessible by your faculty member or administrator.
- Your grade can not be affected by your feedback
- Your identity will remain strictly confidential and anonymous. Comments are not linked to the individual student
- Results are aggregated and reported only after final grades have been posted

So, I strongly urge you to help improve your own education (and that of students who will follow you) by filling out the SSI in each of your courses. Thank you very much.