UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT
Senate Faculty Standards Committee
March 4, 2024

1. Proposal to update official language surrounding evaluation of teaching.

Background
Following extensive discussion by the Faculty Standards Committee, a SET+ Senate Taskforce reviewed the SET and SET+ policies and implementation practices. The taskforce produced a number of recommendations, two of which focused on language surrounding the SET and SET+.

Motions:

1. In official university documentation, remove the "SET+" terminology, which implicitly foregrounds and prioritizes the SET as a primary and definitive assessment of teaching effectiveness. "Assessment of Teaching Effectiveness" (ATE) is the desired general descriptive language to be used moving forward.
2. Redefine the SET acronym from "Student Evaluation of Teaching" to 'Student Experience of Teaching", which reflects the subjective nature of the instrument and acknowledges the potential inherent biases present therein.

2. Recommendation that the Senate formally endorse and disseminate the Task Force's ATE Guidance and Implementation Strategies.

Background
In addition to the suggested name changes in the above proposal, the SET+ Senate Taskforce also suggested a number of best practices for ATE as well as implementation strategies. These were disseminated to deans and department heads.

Motion:

1. That the senate endorse these recommendations and implementation strategies, as well as provide additional venues for their broad distribution, including appropriate websites and the Senate FSC/Provost Office PTR Information Sessions in the spring of each academic year.

SET Motion 1: 63 YAY, 0 NAY, 3 ABSTAIN
SET Motion 2: 66 YAY, 2 NAY, 1 ABSTAIN
SET Motion 3: 62 YAY, 2 NAY, 4 ABSTAIN