

CLARIFICATION ON THE 2005 -2006 UNIVERSITY SENATE FACULTY GRADING SYSTEM SURVEY

Let me clarify the sampling of the surveys that I conducted on plus/minus grading.

To assess the attitudes of the faculty in Spring 2005, I wrote 400 faculty members drawn at random from a list of faculty members teaching courses that semester at WKU and asked them to participate. This list included individuals teaching at branch campuses and graduate students and adjunct faculty. Out of those 400 faculty, 146 responded to the survey.

At the same time (Spring 2005) I emailed 800 randomly drawn students. Of those 800, 169 responded to the survey.

In Fall 2006, I did a resurvey of the faculty. This was a trend study not a panel study. I again drew a random sample of 400 faculty (i.e., I didn't survey the same 400). This time 109 faculty responded to the survey. I did not do a resurvey of the students due to time constraints.

There is a confidence interval calculator available at:

<http://www.surveysystem.com/sscalc.htm>

The confidence interval is an estimate of a population parameter that consists of a range of values bounded by statistics called upper and lower confidence limits, within which the value of the parameter is expected to be located.

If you put in the number in the sample size, the population size you are drawing from, and the percentage of the statistic, it will tell you how large the confidence interval is.

Respectfully submitted,
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