



## **PantherProf Action Team Final Report, March, 2004**

### **Members of Action Team:**

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**Recommendation:** UWM should use the PantherProf web tool to help students learn from other students about their course experiences. This is a communication tool for students, not an evaluation tool of faculty and teaching staff. It will not replace the current course evaluation process.

The PantherProf Action team began its work with the recommendations of the Black and Gold Commission to: “develop a common course evaluation instrument for use campus-wide and make evaluation results available to students in a consistent manner (e.g. putting them on the web for student/faculty use).”

Following several discussion sessions, the team decided to approach this charge as follows:

Students are interested in learning about other students’ course experiences to help select courses and/or to be prepared for the expectations and teaching style of instructors in courses they will take. Students now have only word-of-mouth access to this type of information from other students. Pick-A-Prof, the online third party system with whom the Student Association has contracted, provides a source where students can look up what other students have said about their course experiences. The current Student Association contract with Pick-A-Prof expires in August, 2004. A tool somewhat like Pick-A-Prof developed internally with student, faculty and staff participation could replace Pick-A-Prof with a more comprehensive set of questions designed to provide information to students. We hope that such a tool will also be used by faculty and instructional staff – unlike Pick-A-Prof – to

gauge student response to a course. However, this is not designed to replace the existing departmental course evaluation of faculty and teaching staff.

The Action Team proposes a Spring, 2004 pilot implementation of PantherProf – a web survey that students will be invited to complete for all courses they are still enrolled in at the end of the spring semester. We propose the following implementation steps:

- Two weeks before the end of the semester, all enrolled students will receive an email inviting them to voluntarily complete the PantherProf online survey for any and all of their courses.
- The site will be open for student input for four weeks.
- The site will operate like PAWS, in that when the students sign in, all of their courses are highlighted with a survey link.
- Free response answers must be within standards of appropriate email decorum and inappropriate language will be screened and omitted.
- Reports will be available to anyone with a UWM login later in the summer and will include:
  - Number of students respondents and mean responses to survey items.
  - Compilation of written comments
  - Individual responses with comments.

#### The Development of the PantherProf Survey:

The students on the PantherProf Action Team have worked hard to design a survey that responds to information that UWM students wish to know. A listing of question types was posted on the web in the fall semester. All UWM students received an email invitation to choose their top ten items from this list for inclusion in a PantherProf survey, as well as to suggest other topics. Approximately 2500 students responded. Based on their input, the Action Team constructed a draft survey instrument distributed broadly on February 19, 2004. The team modified the survey to reflect several comments and suggestions sent to the action team or made at the SA/B&G PantherProf Forum on February 26, 2004. The action team will be posting a “Q and A” responding to the comments and suggestions. The UWM Black and Gold Committee approved the action team’s report and recommendation on March 10, 2004.

## **Panther Prof Survey**

### **First, some questions about you, the student!**

1. I rate my interest in the topic of the course as
  - a) high
  - b) average
  - c) low
  
2. I rate my effort in this course (compared to the instructor's expectations and/or the effort of other students in this class) as
  - a) high
  - b) average
  - c) low
  
3. I attended this class
  - a) all of the time
  - b) most of the time
  - c) sporadically
  - d) hardly ever
  
4. I expect my final grade in this class to be
  - a) A
  - b) B
  - c) C
  - d) D
  - e) F
  - f) Pass
  - g) Fail
  
5. On average, I spent \_\_\_\_ hours per week outside of class time studying and preparing for this class.

### **Questions about the instructor:**

6. This instructor responded in a timely way to my questions.
  - a) True
  - b) False
  - c) NA – I didn't ask questions outside of class
  
7. This instructor treated students with respect and encouraged them to do their best.
  - a) True
  - b) False

8. This instructor increased my interest in and ability to learn the course material.
- a) True
  - b) False

9. This instructor seems to be knowledgeable in the subject area of the course
- a) True
  - b) False

**Questions about the course**

10: Based on my experience, the following were used to assess and grade student performance in this class.

10-1: Examinations and Quizzes	10-2: Reports/Papers/ Projects	10-3: Homework Assignments	10-4: Attendance in class	10-5: Course participation
a) Substantially b) Somewhat c) Very little d) Not at all	a) Substantially b) Somewhat c) Very little d) Not at all	a) Substantially b) Somewhat c) Very little d) Not at all	a) Substantially b) Somewhat c) Very little d) Not at all e) Not applicable	a) Substantially b) Somewhat c) Very little d) Not at all

11. Based on my experience, the following teaching methods were used to deliver instruction in this class:

11-1: Classroom lectures	11-2: Classroom discussion	11-3: Student projects/laboratories	11-4: Group work in and/or outside of class	11-5: Internet delivery
a) Primary teaching method b) Used somewhat c) Not used often	a) Primary teaching method b) Used somewhat c) Not used often	a) Primary teaching method b) Used somewhat c) Not used often	a) Primary teaching method b) Used somewhat c) Not used often	a) Primary teaching method b) Used somewhat c) Not used often

12. The amount of work assigned was appropriate for the subject and level of this class.
- a) True
  - b) False – not enough work
  - c) False – too much work

13. In my experience, this course was
- a) fairly easy for me.
  - b) reasonably challenging for me.
  - c) difficult for me.

14. Graded work (such as examinations, papers and projects) reflected what the instructor covered and assigned in the class.

- a) True
- b) False

15. Materials purchased for this course were used in the course.

- a) Substantially
- b) Somewhat
- c) Very little
- d) Not at all
- e) No materials were purchased

16. Grading in this class was fair.

- a) Yes
- b) No, because the course criteria were not fair
- c) No, because the professor was not fair
- d) No, because the both the course criteria and the professor were not fair

**Overall questions:**

17. I would recommend this course to another student.

- a) Yes
- b) No, because I would not recommend the course.
- c) No, because I would not recommend the instructor.
- d) No, because I would not recommend either the course or the instructor.

18. Please provide any additional comments on your experience in this course:

19. If you had it to do over again, what would you do differently to improve your learning outcome from this class?

20. If you have suggestions for improving this survey, please include them: