Dear Faculty Member,

We thank you for rising to the challenge of continuing to educate your students during the COVID-19 pandemic. The transition to remote instruction, as a way to reduce the spread of the COVID-19 virus, presented each of us with hurdles that we are overcoming as a community. In light of these extraordinary circumstances, we have modified the process for gathering feedback about students' perceptions of teaching effectiveness for the spring 2020 semester. The Student Perceptions of Instruction instrument will be administered in all classes that were fully online for the entire term. A modified Student Perceptions of Instruction instrument will be used in all classes that transitioned to fully online instruction after spring break.

Per action taken by the Deans Council, responses to the Students Perception of Instruction, regardless of which instrument will be administered, will not be used as part of your faculty evaluation for the 2019-2020 academic year. However, faculty members who wish to do so may include them as part of any future faculty evaluation.

Both versions of the Student Perceptions of Instruction instrument may be found at this link: https://www.southalabama.edu/departments/institutionaleffectiveness/stuevalofteaching.html

In order to make the most of students' responses, the Office of Institutional Effectiveness will aggregate this information for the University and for Colleges/Schools so that we might learn how to improve online learning and better respond to students' academic and non-academic needs, particularly in a time of crisis. For this purpose, SPI data will be reported only in aggregate and will not include any personally identifiable information of individual students or faculty.

Thank you for all that you have done and continue to do to support your students this semester. If you have any questions about the process, please contact Angela Coleman, Associate Vice President for Institutional Effectiveness at macoleman@southalabama.edu.

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G. David Johnson
Provost and Senior Vice President, Academic Affairs