ECSE Town Hall
Student input to help design a better hybrid, on-line experience

ECSE Community | 7/16/20

This meeting will be recorded and may be shared with other students and faculty
AGENDA

Town Hall Goals

Topics

• Survey results
• Discussion

Announcements and Next Steps

• Announcements
• Next Town Hall: Before Start of Fall Semester
ECSE Town Hall Goals: Student Input

• Collect your thoughts on **experience** with online instruction thus far
• Collect and share student **concerns** to improve future online instruction
• Collect and share student **ideas** to improve future online instruction

This Town Hall is primarily to collect your ideas and concerns.

**Overarching Goals: Build Community, Share Ideas and Concerns, Achieve Education Objectives within Constraints**

To follow up, we will provide more information in subsequent Town Hall meetings.

Professors will focus on listening rather than answering.

This is your time to contribute!
Town Hall Structure

- Mute microphones until you have a comment or question
- We’ll start with most prevalent topics in survey
- The questions on the screen are only to prompt ideas and conversation. You may add to these questions and comments.
- Please comment in the chat and ask questions there, we will read your question or comment in the flow of conversation
- Raise your hand by typing in the chat “I have a comment/question” if you’d prefer to speak to the group
ECSE Town Hall: Topics Survey (91 Total Responses)

- Performing labs at home: 45
- Workload adjustments: 45
- Assessments and Grading: 33
- Community and communication with peers/professors: 31
- Performance difference in taking online exams: 31
- Fears for the Fall (worried about most?): 27
- Getting help, mentorship, tutoring online: 27
- Synchronous (in-class) activities: 23
- Asynchronous (out-of-class) activities: 20
- Things to absolutely keep consistent: 19
- Opportunities for change: 19
- Wishlist of important online resources: 19
- Academic integrity: 13
- Online proctoring: 12
- Other (Graduate Research): 2
- Other (Time Zones?): 2
- Other (The new SEVP guidelines): 1
- Other (Part time status): 1
- Other (ICE after Thanksgiving): 1
- Other (Online Graduate Work): 1

Performance difference in taking online exams: 18.7% of responses
Community and communication with peers/professors: 17.6% of responses
Fears for the Fall (worried about most?): 17.6% of responses
Performance difference in taking online exams: 18.7% of responses
Getting help, mentorship, tutoring online: 17.6% of responses
Synchronous (in-class) activities: 18.7% of responses
Asynchronous (out-of-class) activities: 20.9% of responses
Things to absolutely keep consistent: 17.6% of responses
Opportunities for change: 17.6% of responses
Wishlist of important online resources: 18.7% of responses
Academic integrity: 18.7% of responses
Online proctoring: 17.6% of responses
Other (Graduate Research): 20.9% of responses
Other (Time Zones?): 17.6% of responses
Other (The new SEVP guidelines): 17.6% of responses
Other (Part time status): 17.6% of responses
Other (ICE after Thanksgiving): 17.6% of responses
Other (Online Graduate Work): 17.6% of responses
Workload Adjustments

• Please comment on your workload difference between on-campus and online courses.

• What activities helped you learn the material best in your online experience?

• What activities helped you learn the material best in your on-campus experience?

• Please comment on homework, it’s worth to you, it’s contribution to your learning, it’s contribution to your stress.

• Please comment on your hand-on lab experiences, it’s worth to you, it’s contribution to your learning, it’s contribution to your stress.
Performing Labs at Home

- For those who had the experience of doing remote labs at home:
  - What worked well in your online courses with remote labs?
  - What were your challenges?
  - What advice could you give to students taking a course with a remote lab?

- If you are interested in coming to campus, what are the most important activities (regarding labs) that would make coming to campus worth the risk?

- If there was one characteristic to carry over from a typical on-campus lab experience to an online lab experience, what is that characteristic?
Assessments and Grading

• Please comment on your experience in how the faculty assess your learning in an online environment.

• What are things that you’d like your instructors to consider that we haven’t considered before in our grading in an online/hybrid experience?
Community and Communication with Peers and Professors

• What are your experiences with communication within your classes between peers and professors?
• What worked well for you?
• What didn’t work well for you?
• What suggestions do you have to keep the ECSE community strong during an online-hybrid experience?
• What resources would be helpful to you regarding mentorship, tutoring, etc. in an online setting?
• ECSE Discord (without anonymity) or Slack Server or Webex Team?
• What would you like every ECSE professor to know about how we communicate (or how you’d prefer us to communicate with you)?
Performance difference in taking online exams

• Is your performance affected by taking exams online?
• Please comment on the proctoring methods used for online exams
• Please comment on take-home vs. timed exams
• **Academic Integrity** is the cornerstone of academic learning and scholarly work.
  • Is it clear to you what it means in a course?
  • How do you think it should be monitored and addressed in classes?
  • What actions would you suggest to enhance and foster academic integrity? E.g., Honor Pledge: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received any unauthorized aid on this (exam, quiz, paper).”
  • How important an issue do you feel it is?
Fears for the Fall

• Does the Rensselaer Return-to-Campus plan address your concerns about classes and course delivery?

• Do you have any concern about in-person or hybrid course delivery?
Synchronous and Asynchronous Activities

- What synchronous activities work well?
- What synchronous activities do not work well?
- What asynchronous activities work well?
- What asynchronous activities do not work well?
Q1: Sharing Your Experience about Online Learning

- Motivation, focus, stress
- Time management working at home
- Technical issues: delivery and Internet access
- Going too fast
Q2: ECSE Related Questions for Fall 2020

• What will lab courses be like?
• What will design courses be like?
• Option for online learning instead of being on campus?
• Which classes will be online? (All ECSE classes will include online delivery.)
• Slow down the pace, reduce coverage, easier exams, less homework, etc.?
• URP opportunities
• Format for Office Hours and TA Hours?
Q3: ECSE Related Suggestions for Fall 2020

- Outdoor interaction
- Bug test software!
- Faculty talks
- Use Piazza (for students to ask questions)
Next Step

• Lab information session
• Incoming ECSE student session
• Follow-up Town Hall
why not change the world®