



Greetings Members,

Over 500 members responded to the OU-AAUP Online Teaching Survey we distributed on April 24th. With this survey we sought to get a broad overview of how members are responding to the major disruptions which have already occurred and those likely to occur in the near future. The information gathered here showcases faculty voices in an important way and will be shared with Oakland administrators as a continuing effort to ensure collaborative decision-making in regards to academic matters.

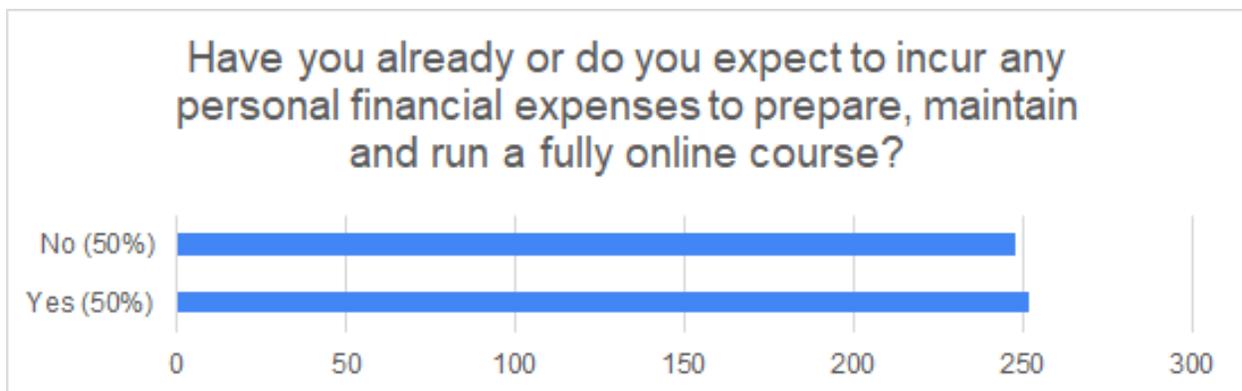
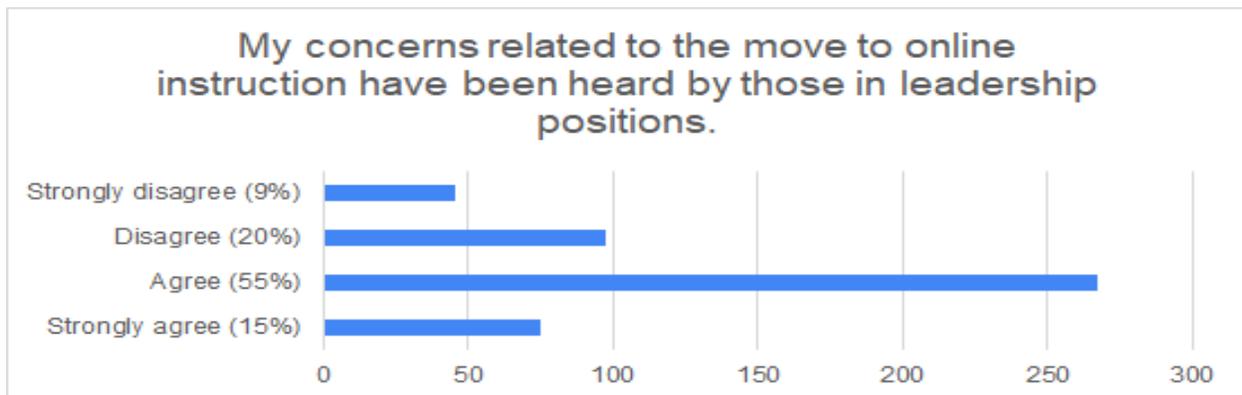
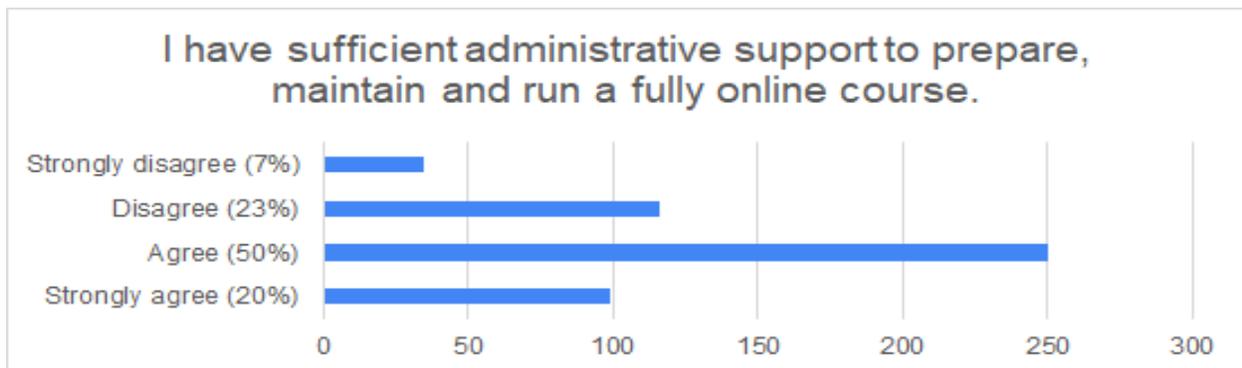
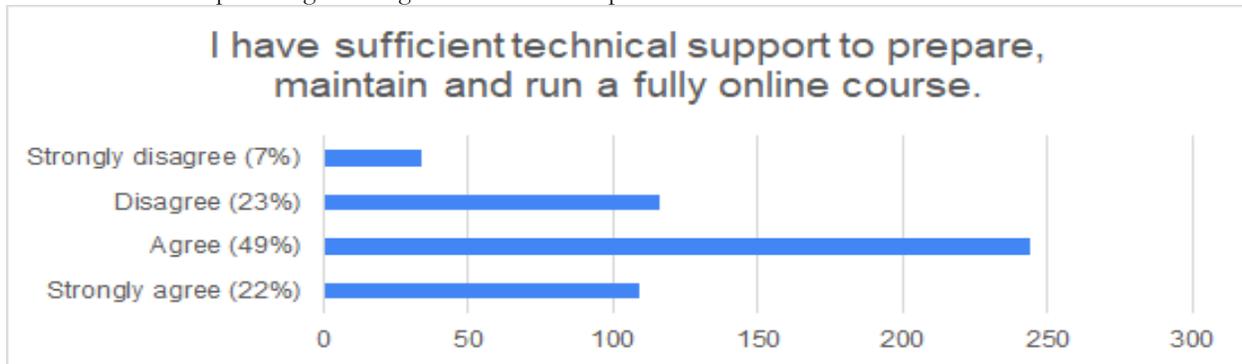
What the survey shows us is that while our faculty have worked far beyond expectations and obligations during this crisis to provide our students with the excellent education they deserve, they have done so at great expense to themselves in terms of time, money and emotional energy. Furthermore, the survey reveals that while faculty believe themselves to be capable of delivering quality educational content online as needed throughout this crisis, they can only do so with the full support of the university. And finally, while our membership understands that safety concerns may keep us out of the classroom in the short-term, we strongly maintain that face-to-face instruction can and must return as soon as is safely possible in order to ensure Oakland's students receive the full value of their OU education.

We thank you for taking the time and effort to make your voices heard during these difficult and uneasy times. If you have any questions about the survey, feel free to reach out to me (pollard@oakland.edu) or any other member of the OU-AAUP Executive Committee.

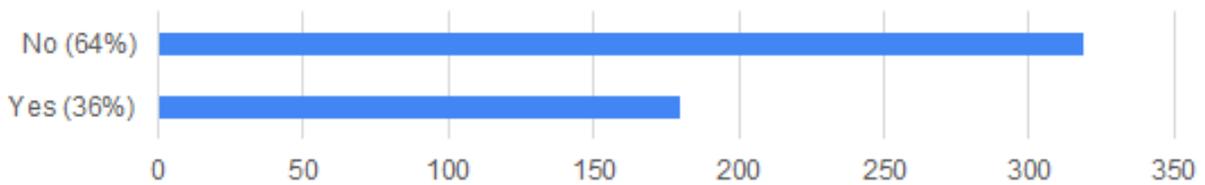
Yours in Solidarity,

OU-AAUP Executive Committee

*Please note that all percentages throughout are rounded up.



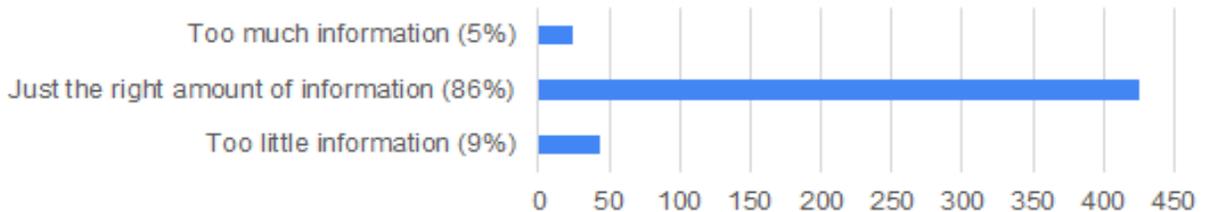
Are you concerned that moving your courses online will endanger your intellectual property?



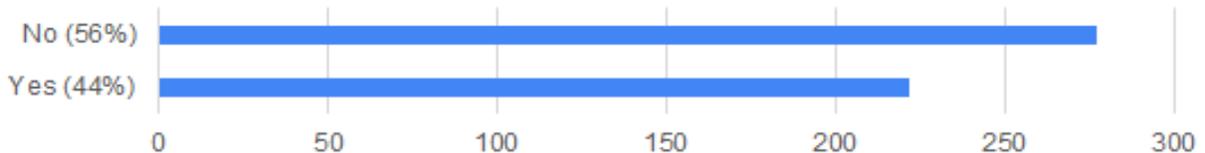
Has your academic freedom to make choices about how you run your courses been respected throughout this move to online instruction?



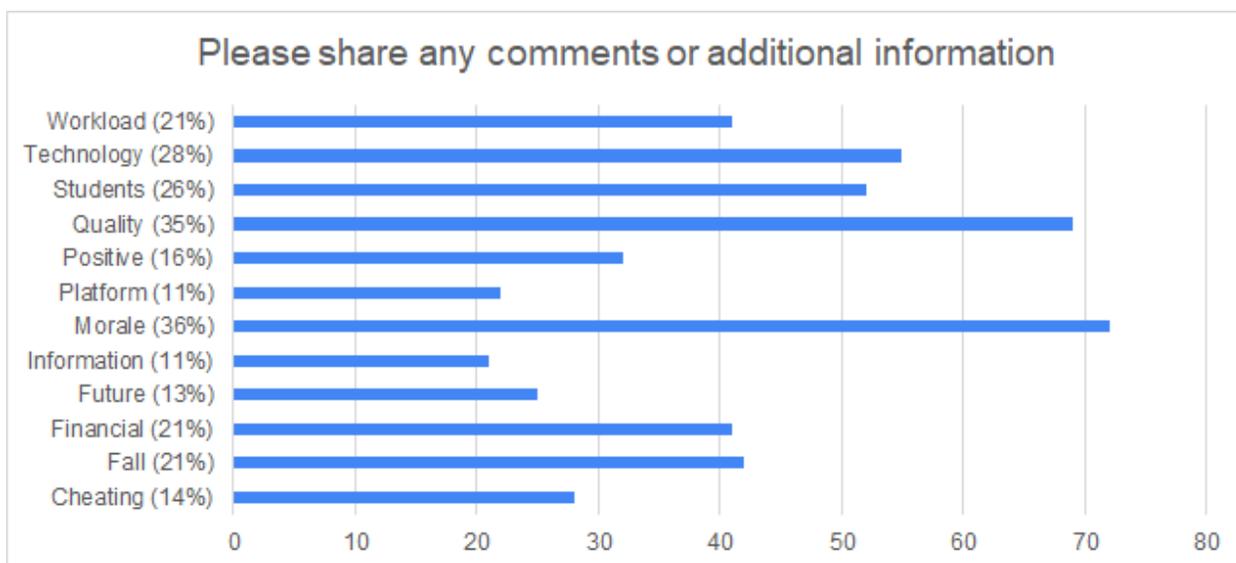
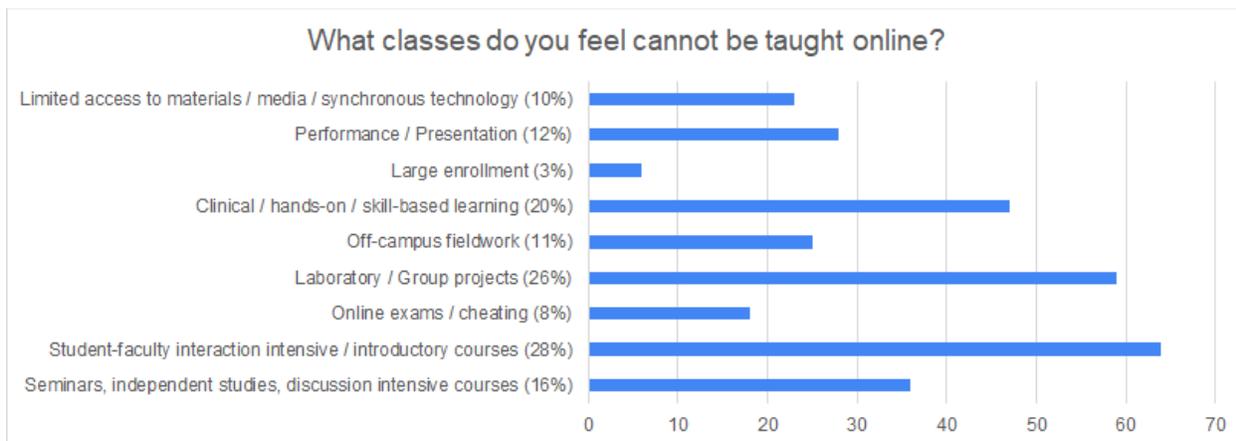
OU-AAUP communications regarding all issues related to the COVID-19 disruptions have provided me with sufficient information during this time.



At this time do you believe that some of your classes cannot be taught effectively online?



We received 234 comments to the first open-ended question posed and 201 responses to the second. The charts below reflect our best efforts to categorize the concerns and issues raised in each answer set. In their comments, faculty expressed concerns on a wide range of issues including cheating, access, workload, instructional quality, student welfare, technology, etc., so many comments have been counted in more than one category. Therefore, percentages displayed here add to over 100%. There were also issues and concerns we felt we couldn't quite capture statistically. To help offer some further detail, we have included a few select quotes immediately after the charts.



Question: If yes [you believe some of your classes cannot be taught online], what classes do you feel cannot be taught online?

- “I'd just like to say that the possibility of a lack of childcare could make continued online teaching nearly impossible for me”
- “Also students with depression issues are falling between the cracks without in person meetings.”
- “I am concerned about discussion-based classes, especially ones that deal with sensitive topics like race and gender”
“I'm also worried that students will turn to me for tech help, or might fail to ask for tech help altogether.”

- “I can teach the material online (though more effective in person), but students lose a crucial element of the class if they do not get to be challenged with real time, real life pitches throughout the semester”

Question: Please share any comments or additional information:

- “I am especially concerned with the inequalities that emerged for student access.
- “The academic integrity of both our courses and our OU degrees are at serious risk by students cheating on online exams.”
- “Moving online temporarily may make sense and the classes I teach may be fine. But in person delivery is probably always going to be better. I worry if we do this and everyone says it’s okay then online classes will become more of a norm.”
- “Teaching in an online environment is extremely time intensive. I hope there will be support and contractual consideration for those who teach large classes and multiple courses each semester.”
- “I’m doing the best I can, but this is difficult.”
- “I think faculty members are going to need choices and flexibility in the fall semester. Now we see that it is possible that we will have face to face classes in the fall, but if a faculty member does not feel comfortable in the face to face class setting, I think there should be the choice to do the classes online.”
- “If we are fully online in the Fall, it is absolutely necessary that courses have an assigned day/time. This time has proved instrumental in connecting with students, and allowing instructors the flexibility to teach in either synchronous or asynchronous fashion (or both). I also believe this option provides structure for those students who need it, and helps students know that we are doing everything we can to maintain a high standard of instruction in these unpredictable times.”
- “There will be fear of contracting the virus on campus, concern about touching surfaces that others have touched, whether papers, whether it is sneezing and coughing even with masks, the possibility of an outbreak on campus would be disastrous--there are many balls in the air, and things are always changing rapidly.”
- “[I]f protective covering is required, I do not think the campus is safe. And for that reason, I would probably prefer to teach my classes online, even though it is not my preferred method of delivery at all. It can be done, but it is not as effective or interesting or desirable as face to face.”