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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.

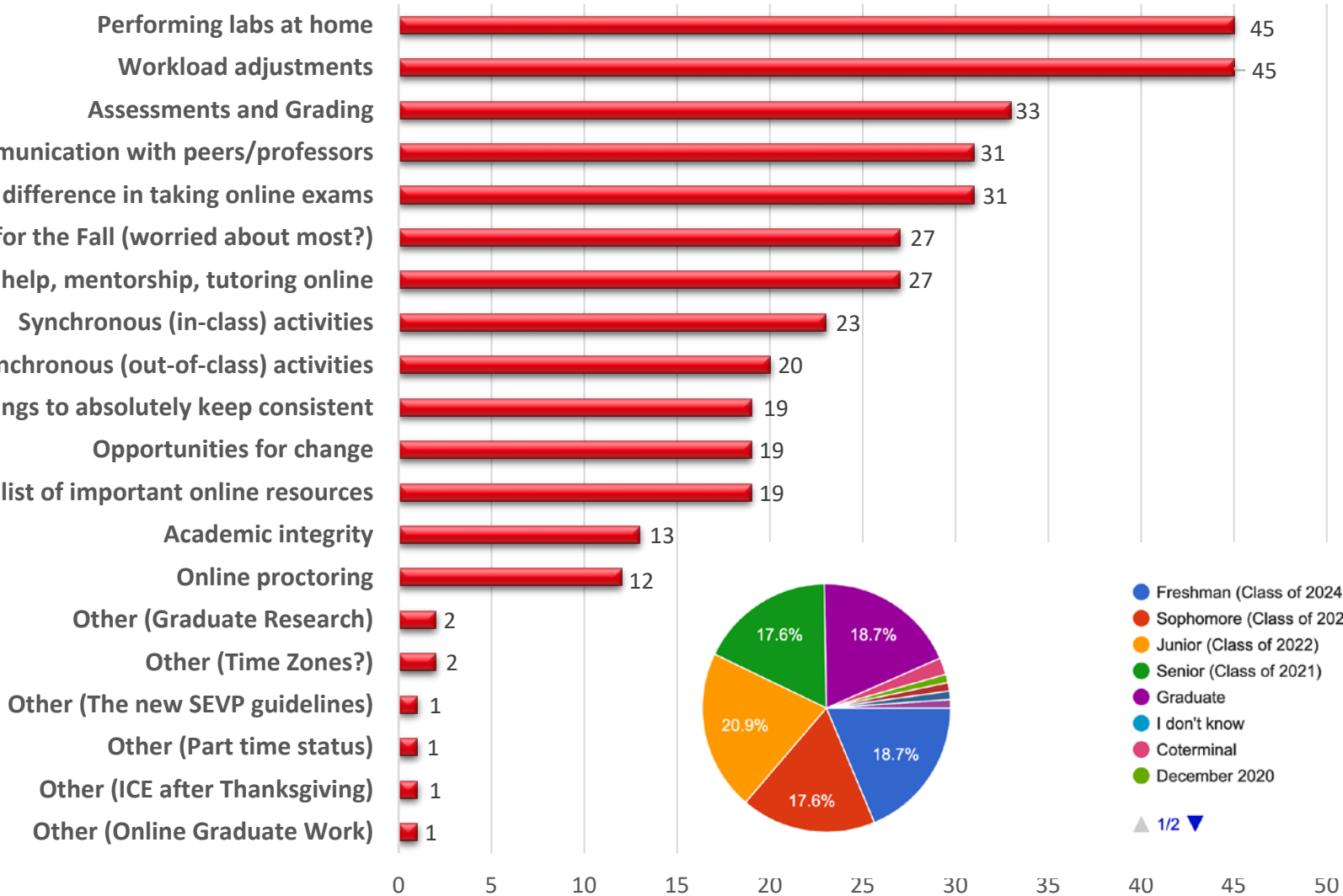
Professors will focus on listening rather than answering.

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)



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



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