
Faculty–Student Panel Discussion Guide

Question 1: Best Class in College

Students: Think about the best class you’ve taken in college. - What made it such a powerful learning experience? - What did the instructor do that made the learning really stick?

Faculty: When you hear those examples: - What stands out to you? - Do any of those practices align with your own teaching?

Question 2: Teaching Practices That Make Learning Click

Faculty: - What are two or three teaching practices you’ve found most impactful on student learning?

Students: - How do practices like that affect your engagement and learning? - Can you share examples of when a teaching practice helped something really “click” for you?

Possible Follow-Up Prompts: - Can you give a specific example of what that looked like in a class? - What was the student reaction when you tried that approach? - How did that change your engagement or confidence in the course? - Did that approach change how you studied or participated?

Question 3: Teaching Approaches That Support Engagement and Learning

Faculty: - Beyond the practices you just mentioned, what are two or three strategies you use to actively engage students and support their success?

Students: - Which teaching approaches help you engage more deeply, participate in class, or stay motivated to learn? - How do these approaches shape your experience in a course?

Question 4: Feedback

Students: - What kinds of feedback from professors help you learn the most?

Faculty: - How do you give feedback in ways that support learning rather than just evaluation?

Question 5: The Faculty–Student Learning Partnership

- What does a strong faculty–student partnership in learning look like?
- What responsibilities do each group have in making that partnership successful?
- What helps build trust between faculty and students?

Possible Follow-Up Prompts:

Students: What makes you feel comfortable participating in class?

Faculty: How do you encourage students who may be hesitant to engage?

Question 6: Navigating Challenges

Students: - Can you share a challenging learning experience and how you worked through it?

Faculty: - How do you respond when students struggle or when something in a course doesn't work as planned?

Question 7: Building Career-Ready Skills

Students: - In what ways have your classes helped you develop skills such as critical thinking, communication, collaboration, and problem solving?

Faculty: - How do you intentionally design learning experiences that help students build these abilities?

Question 8: Advice for Future Faculty

Students: - What helps you feel supported and engaged in a class?

Faculty: - What is one thing new faculty should do to create meaningful learning experiences for students?

Question 9: One Change That Could Improve Teaching and Learning

- If you could suggest one change—related to course design, teaching practices, student engagement, or institutional support—that would strengthen teaching and learning in higher education, what would it be?