Revision of the UMC Survey

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Background

• The UMC survey has been a central self-assessment tool for the community for nearly twenty years.

• A revision subcommittee was formed in June 2009 to look at the need for changes and to make recommendations.

  - some minor changes were implemented in the 2009 survey instrument based on feedback from the June 2009 UMC meeting.

  - we are entertaining requests from MRS on new questions related to gender equity.

• Expect a fully revised survey instrument and methods for the 2009-2010 reporting cycle.
Principles guiding survey revision.

• Keep the survey focused needs of the community.

• Keep the survey as simple and straightforward as possible.

• Minimize opportunities for interpretation in the survey instrument.

• Make the raw and synthesized data accessible electronically.
New additions to the survey.

• Added request for name of degrees offered.

• Added request for the value start-up packages offered by rank.

• Added details in request on research expenditures (separated faculty rank).

• Requested information on whether departments engaged an Associate Chair on a paid basis.

• Other minor clarifications and corrections.
On-going issues.

- Institution-to-institution variations in time period used for reporting.
- Much interpretation still needed in the survey.
- Some data collected but not rolled up and reported back.
- Electronic accessibility of raw data.
- Report formatting and error checking.