Six Week Feedback Report: Large Format PA 233 Class

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PA 233 is a survey class covering a number of aspects of business and government relations. This pilot section has about 85 students and is taught in Room 131, the large lecture hall. Overall, the feedback thusfar is very positive and this format might be adapted to other topics that cover survey format topics. (ie basic econ, marketing, basic management, etc...)

PA 233 Large Format Class (80+ students) (MW LLG Bldg Room 131)
(Note: this feedback was collected on Lent, so some students asked to be excused. the raw data is available on request.)

Q1: Do you like this type of large format class?

Of the 45 students that turned in their anonymous feedback, 37 (82%) indicated that they really enjoyed the larger format. Common comments included they liked the improved social opportunities, audience-like interaction and the novel aspects of the format. Seven (7/ 16%) students were not enjoying the format. Major reasons included they felt that the class was impersonal and hard to meet people, they didn't like large groups, or they worried that attendance was not being taken. (Note: my TA takes roll, he learned each student by face/name the first week. He is training for the US marshal service.) One student (1 /2%) could not make up his mind. He was a guy, I could tell by his poor handwriting. Overall, these results reflect expected levels of support as predicted by Paredo's 80/20 dichotomy. Thus, the format seems to be appropriate, but not for all student personality types.

Q2: How could we improve this class? Below is a basic count of those who offered one or more suggestions. (real numbers)

- **More student discussion:** 5/ breakout sections 3; Some students want more student level interaction, we can work on this by creating discussion groups.
- **Bigger board:** 4 hard to see / PowerPoint: 1: From certain parts of this classroom, the whiteboard is hard to see, this can be overcome by typing the points into projected powerpoint notes.
- **Field trips:** 4; We can schedule one or two for extra credit.
- **More book:** 3 Some students want the book covered point by point. We can do this in discussion groups.
- **Movies:** 2 I can assign a movie or two.
- **Group projects:** 2; Two were assigned already.
- **Get to know others**: 2 (same groups) I can make the class learn everyones names.
- **Random seating:** 1; Guest speakers: 1 Take attendance: 1 (we do)