

Western Carolina University  
Quality Enhancement Plan Committee

Discussion Points for Unit Meetings  
April, 2005

SACS QEP Committee members are requested to meet with as many campus units as possible to initiate discussions on the development of our QEP, and to identify potential areas of focus. The process will be iterative, with ample opportunities for input from all university constituents over the next 18 months. Themes will be continually available for review by members of the university community as we develop and refine them.

Discussion Points

1. Frame the QEP process in the context of the SACS Review, i.e., one of two major initiatives that must be addressed in our institutional analysis, the other being the compliance certification document with 73 specific standards; emphasize QEP focus on enhancing student learning;
2. Share the *QEP guidelines and summary*; stress the exploratory nature of our conversations and necessity for an inclusive process;
3. Outline steps necessary to accomplish our tasks: Leadership Retreat held in the Fall 2004 semester; formation of QEP Committee; review of existing QEPs from other institutions; examination of relevant institutional documents to highlight areas of strength, challenge, and opportunity (e.g., National Survey of Student Engagement results, unit assessment plans and program goals, institutional mission, strategic planning documents, reports submitted to UNC-General Administration, alumni data, etc.), student, staff, and faculty focus groups and unit meetings, etc.
4. Raise the issue of resources that will be needed to implement and sustain the QEP; current initiatives will more likely continue to receive support if they relate to the adopted QEP;
5. Share ideas generated at the Leadership Retreat last semester; share topics selected by other institutions ahead of us in this process;
6. Request ideas; take good notes!
7. Future plans include summer committee meetings and multiple opportunities for evaluation of the plan as the QEP is finalized.