

Western Carolina University SACS Review
The Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP)
SACS Core Requirement 2.12
UC Catamount Room
2:00 p.m., November 3, 2005
Meeting Minutes

Attended:

Heidi Buchanan- Library; Carol Burton- SACS Director; David Coffee- Accountancy, Finance and Entrepreneurship; Elizabeth Frazier- Registrar's Office; Tammy Haskett- Orientation; Irene Mueller- Health Sciences; Bob Orr- Office of the CIO; Co- Chair Scott Philyaw-History; Nory Prochaska- Math and Computer Science; Co-Chair Brian Railsback- Honors College; Mike Stewart- Facilities Management; Bill Studenc- Public Relations

Absent:

Grace Allen- Accountancy, Finance and Entrepreneurship; Cindy Atterholt- Chemistry and Physics; Troy Barksdale- University Planning; Jennifer Brown- Athletics; Kyle Carter- Provost; Phil Cauley- Admissions; Jane Eastman- Anthropology & Sociology; A.J. Grube- Office of the Provost; Bill Haggard- Student Affairs; Wade Livingston- CSP Graduate Student; Gordon Mercer- Public Policy Institute; Patsy Miller- Asheville Programs; Kadence Otto- Health and Human Performance; Newton Smith-Chair of the Faculty Senate; Julie Walters-Steele- University Center

QEP Topic:

“AEIOU: Academic Engagement Inside and Outside the University”

Agenda:

I. Calendar Review and Timelines

- Committee members should bring their spring semester calendars to the next QEP meeting so a meeting time and day can be discussed. Spring semester QEP meetings will be scheduled in advance.
- Ann Chard, SACS Liaison, will be on campus Nov. 14. A schedule for her visit has been disseminated to the SACS Committees, the Chancellor's Executive Committee, and the University community.
- Nov. 7 is the deadline to submit the QEP outline to Ann Chard for review prior to her visit.
- Carol reported on the QEP timeline. During the 2006 spring semester, a draft of the QEP must be approved by all major university organizations. She will develop an approval process for our QEP for the Spring Semester.
- Sept. 6, 2006 is the deadline for the Executive Summary of the QEP to be submitted to SACS accompanied by the University's compliance certification
- Feedback from the SACS off site team will be in Nov. 2006.
- April 2, 3 and 4, 2007 is the SACS site visit. The QEP must be submitted to SACS two months in advance of the site visit.

II. QEP Draft

- Brian, Scott and Carol will meet on November 4 to draft the QEP outline using subcommittee reports and will forward it to Ann Chard, the QEP Committee, and the University.
- A suggestion was made by Heidi to meet again with campus departments, (in much the same fashion as we did in April, 2005) early in the spring semester to get feedback on the QEP.
- It was suggested that the QEP should be presented to the Faculty Senate before the March 15, 2006 meeting.

- Heidi is the contact for library resources and Alan Altany is the contact for Faculty Center resources.

III. Subcommittee Reports

- Introduction- Mike reported that the introduction of the QEP will include the early stages of QEP development, QEP committee formation, the conceptualization of the QEP and definitions of engagement. A literature review will follow.
- Faculty Center- Nory reported Anna McFadden, the new director, has been contacted and will be the QEP point person. Specific QEP initiatives for the Faculty Center need to be developed. The Faculty Center is a faculty resource that can support the QEP by getting the academic departments involved in engagement. The Faculty Center can house a QEP resource person who helps to build relationships among the QEP units.
- Internships/Co-ops- Dave Coffee said the pieces of the internship/co-op outline had not been tied together. The focus thus far has been on what WCU already does. The questions asked by members of the QEP committee were “Why are internships/coops important to student learning?” and “Why is WCU doing these programs?” It was suggested that additional research be done on the application of knowledge as it relates to this area. Tammy suggested the “7 C’s of Student Leadership” as a guideline (see below).
- Service Learning- Tammy did not have anything new to report.

IV. Action Items

- Carol will send an outline of the entire QEP to the committee so that members can have a “big picture” of the plan.
- A definition of engagement will be discussed at the next QEP meeting.
- Subcommittees will start writing from outlines and will need to develop a plan of action by the end of the fall semester.
- Discussion centered on what engagement is and is not and how to incorporate the many meanings of engagement into the QEP. The definition of engagement must relate to student learning and can include references to economic or regional development.

Meeting adjourned. Next meeting: November 10 at 2:00 p.m. in the UC Cardinal room.

1. Consciousness of self and others through self reflection means being aware of the values, emotions, attitudes, and beliefs that motivate one to take action, including how one understands others.
2. Congruency means thinking, feeling and behaving with consistency, genuineness, authenticity, and honesty toward others.
3. Commitment implies intensity and duration. It requires a significant involvement and investment of one's self in the activity and its intended outcomes. It is the energy that drives the collective effort.
4. Collaboration is the primary means of empowering others and self through trust. Collaboration can occur when one has trust in the diversity of multiple talents and perspectives of the group members and the power of that diversity to generate creative solutions and actions.
5. Common purpose is to work with shared aims and values. It implies the ability to engage in collective analysis of the issues at hand and the tasks to be undertaken. It requires that all members of the group participate actively in articulating the purpose and goals of the leadership development activity.
6. Controversy with Civility recognizes two fundamental realities of any group effort; that differences in viewpoint are inevitable and valuable, and that such differences must be aired openly but with civility.
7. Citizenship describes the process whereby the self is responsibly connected to the environment and the community. It acknowledges the interdependence of all involved in the leadership effort. Citizenship, thus, recognizes that effective democracy involves individual responsibility as well as individual rights.