PRESENTED BY: SEAN BRUMFIELD

QEP Director
Located on Clarkston Campus – A 1300

BS in communication (KSU)
MA in professional writing (KSU)
ED D in higher education administration (UGA)

Taught English for 13 years at Chattahoochee Technical College
Used engaged learning strategies in most courses taught
QEP 101

1. What QEP and EDGE stand for
2. Why we are doing a QEP
3. What you need to know if a visiting team member asks you about the QEP
4. What GPC’s QEP is all about
5. What you can do to help
ALPHABET SOUP

QEP stands for Quality Enhancement Plan

EDGE stands for Engagement Drives GPC Education

EDGE is the theme of our QEP

WHY ARE WE DOING A QEP?

1. The Quality Enhancement Plan, a 5-year plan, is designed to improve student learning.
2. The Quality Enhancement Plan exemplifies the process of continuous improvement because data is collected through the assessment process and used to refine the plan.
3. The Quality Enhancement Plan is a requirement of our SACS reaffirmation of accreditation. The onsite committee will be on campus September 25 – 27, 2012.
A Visiting Team Member Asks Me about the QEP. Now What?

1. Relax.
2. Remember that QEP stands for Quality Enhancement Plan.
3. Remember that EDGE stands for Engagement Drives GPC Education.
4. Remember that we are doing the QEP to improve student learning.
5. Smile. 😊
In a Nutshell ...

The QEP is about improving student learning by providing engaging learning experiences for our students both inside and outside the classroom.

A multi-year process involving broad participation from all areas and campuses of the college determined that the focus of the QEP would be “engaged learning.”

Engaged Learning as GPC defines it provides a deeper understanding of connections across the disciplines and ties classroom learning to real-world applications. Engaged learning helps students to develop skills, including analytical skills, problem solving and creative thinking, and requires faculty to move from mere passive involvement of students to an engaged platform.

College-wide Goals of the EDGE Initiative

1. Enhancement of the skills of faculty and staff by fostering efforts to develop and integrate applied learning experiences into curricular and co-curricular GPC experiences.
2. Improvement in student learning outcomes in courses using engaged learning pedagogies.
3. Improvement in critical thinking skills in students taking courses using engaged learning pedagogies.
4. Increase in students’ perceptions that their courses are relevant to life outside the classroom.
5. Increase in student persistence to the end of the semester in courses using engaged learning practices.
Anticipated Outcomes of the EDGE Initiative

**Behavior Changes**

**Outcome 1**: Students will be more likely to persist in and complete their courses.

**Outcome 2**: Instructors will increase their focus on and skills in making their courses engaging and relevant.

**Attitude Changes**

**Outcome 3**: Students will perceive their courses as more relevant to their lives and careers.

**Outcome 4**: Students will report greater engagement as part of their overall college experience.

**Learning Outcomes**

**Outcome 5**: Students will improve in their ability to make connections between course content and issues of real-world significance.

**Outcome 6**: Students will improve in their ability to think critically.

**Outcome 7**: Students will perform better on course-specific common end-of-course assessments.
Engaged Learning Strategies

Active Learning Strategies:
- Collaborative Learning
- Problem-based Learning

Community-based Learning Strategies:
- Service Learning
- Community-based Research

Existing Campus Activities:
- Campus Gardens
- GPC Reads
- The Democracy Commitment
- Days of Service

Who Can Participate in the QEP?

Any faculty member wishing to use engaged pedagogies is invited to participate.

Specific courses were selected based on a number of criteria, including annual course enrollment and completion rates.

The first two courses selected are ENGL 1101 and HIST 1111.
What Happens Next?

Baseline data will be collected during Fall semester 2012.
Faculty members will be invited to participate in an EDGE-focused faculty development series during Spring semester 2013.
The first EDGE courses will be implemented during Fall semester 2013.
The cycle repeats. Each subsequent Fall semester, two additional courses will implement EDGE strategies.

What Can Faculty Members Do to Help?
Help students understand the importance of the EDGE initiative and explain what the Quality Enhancement Plan is and what QEP means.
Add the EDGE logo and a “blurb” explaining the real-world relevance of your course to your syllabus.
Actively participate in the QEP process.
Big Take-Aways

QEP = Quality Enhancement Plan
EDGE = Engagement Drives GPC Education
The purpose of the QEP is to improve student learning
For More Information

Check out the QEP website: www.gpc.edu/qep
Contact a member of the QEP team:
  - Sean Brumfield
  - Pamela Moolenaar-Wirsiy
  - Barbara Brown

Special Thanks

QEP Steering Committee
  - Debi Moon
  - Pamela Moolenaar-Wirsiy
  - Barbara Brown