QEP Committee Meeting

Dec. 1, 2010

WIMBA
FAQs

- **What is a QEP?** The letters QEP stands for quality enhancement plan. It is a requirement of our accreditation with the SACS-COC (our accreditation agency). It fulfills the SACS core requirement 2.12 which states:

  - The institution has developed an acceptable Quality Enhancement Plan that:
    - includes a broad-based institutional process identifying key issues emerging from institutional assessment,
    - focuses on learning outcomes and/or the environment supporting student learning and accomplishing the mission of the institution,
    - demonstrates institutional capability for the initiation, implementation, and completion of the QEP,
    - includes broad-based involvement of institutional constituencies in the development and proposed implementation of the QEP, and
    - identifies goals and a plan to assess their achievement.

- The Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP)
  - A plan to do something to improve Student Learning Outcomes in the 5 years following reaffirmation.
  - Plan must include budget, timeline, plans for assessing outcomes.
  - Must have widespread institutional participation and representation
• **When do we have to finish the QEP?** The written plan is due to the SACS -- COC office in the late spring of 2013.

• **Who is involved in creating the QEP?** All college constituents, faculty, staff, students and the community.

• **Is this mandatory?** The QEP is a condition of our reaccreditation through SACS-COC. It is required.

• **Does every faculty, staff, student and community person have to participate?** All college constituents and stakeholders should be knowledgeable about the QEP. However, not every college stakeholder will participate directly in a QEP course or themed activity.
• What is the timeline for the QEP?

- **2009**
  - Fall: Campus Forums
  - Spring: Think Tank

- **2010**
  - Fall: Committee Forms, Begins Work
  - Spring: Narrowing Topic, Soliciting Feedback

- **2011**
  - Fall - Spring: Committee Researches and Prepares Plan

- **2012**
  - July - October: Quality Enhancement Plan Due
• **Who is on the QEP committee?** The QEP committee is composed of faculty staff students and community members. The list can be found on the web site [here](#).

• **Have we chosen a scene for the QEP yet?** The committee has been hard at work for over a year and has proposed a theme of:
"Enhancing Student Success Through Engaged Learning"

1. Engaged learning in the classroom
   - Problem based learning
   - Project based learning
   - Active learning
   - Service learning
   - Technology Tools (Web 2.0 Tools, etc.)
   - Interdisciplinary threads

2. Engaged learning outside the classroom
   - a. Engaged learning in the community (civic engagement)
   - b. Engaged learning in co-curricular activities

The GPC community will provide input and select a final theme by spring 2011.
Glossary

- **Engagement**: Student engagement occurs when "students make a psychological investment in learning. Students are engaged when they are involved in their work, persist despite challenges and obstacles, and take visible delight in accomplishing their work. Student engagement also refers to a "student's willingness, need, desire and compulsion to participate in, and be successful in, the (measurable) learning process promoting higher level thinking for enduring understanding."
• **Active learning**: the process whereby learners are actively engaged in the learning process, rather than "passively" absorbing information. Active learning involves reading, writing, discussion, and engagement in solving problems, critical thinking, analysis, and evaluation.
• **Case studies:** a research and teaching methodology based on an in-depth investigation of a single individual, concept, group, or event. Rather than using samples and following a strict set of rules to examine limited number of variables, case study methods involve an in-depth, longitudinal examination of a single instance or event: a case. They provide a systematic way of looking at events, collecting data, analyzing information and reporting the results.
• **Civic Engagement**: Efforts by an educational institution that develop the knowledge, skills, values and actions needed by students to positively impact the community. (*from GPC Website*)

• **Service Learning**: An educational approach that connects course objectives and outcomes with relevant service in ways that benefit the community. (*from GPC Website*)

• **Student Learning Outcomes**: what students will know and be able to do as a result of their efforts or practices that will demonstrate competence in a certain area; the knowledge, skills, and abilities that students have attained as a result of their involvement in a particular set of educational experiences.
• **Interdisciplinary Threads**: An interdisciplinary curriculum presents content, skills and thinking processes, and assessments through exploring connections among the disciplines.

**Co-curricular**: activities that connect classroom learning with campus, civic or community needs/events.
Engaged learning - students actively participate in their learning. Engaged learning deepens student learning by enhancing classroom education through opportunities which put academic concepts into action and skills into practice, where learning can be measured.
• **Problem-based learning**: Problem-based learning (PBL) is a student-centered, instructional strategy in which students collaboratively solve problems and reflect on their experiences. In PBL, students are encouraged to take responsibility for their group and organize and direct the learning process with support from a tutor or instructor.
Words yet to be defined

• **Learning Communities:**

• **Technology Tools:**

• **Web 2.0:**

• **Project- based learning:**
• **Web 2.0** is commonly associated with web applications that facilitate interactive information sharing, user-centered design,[1] and collaboration on the **World Wide Web**.

• **Learning Communities**: classes that are linked during the same academic term, often around an interdisciplinary theme, and enroll a common cohort of students.
Technology Tools
Happy Holidays!

Happy Bodhi Day!

Al Hijra

Happy Kwanzaa

Merry Christmas