

Western Carolina University SACS Review
The Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP)
SACS Core Requirement 2.12
UC Cardinal Room
3:00 p.m., August 15, 2005
Meeting Minutes

Attended:

Troy Barksdale- University Planning; Jennifer Brown- Athletics; Heidi Buchanan- Library; Carol Burton- SACS Director; David Coffee- College of Business; Elizabeth Frazier- Registrar's Office; Tammy Haskett- Orientation; Irene Mueller- Health Sciences; Bob Orr- Office of the CIO; Kadence Otto- Health and Human Performance; Co- Chair Scott Philyaw- History; Nory Prochaska- Math and Computer Science; Co-Chair Brian Railsback- Honors College; Newton Smith- English; Mike Stewart- Facilities Management; Bill Studenc- Public Relations; Julie Walters-Steele- University Center; Brian Gastle- English (Editor)

Absent:

Grace Allen- Accountancy, Finance and Entrepreneurship; Cindy Atterholt- Chemistry and Physics; Kyle Carter- Provost; Phil Cauley- Admissions; Jane Eastman- Anthropology & Sociology; A.J. Grube- Office of the Provost; Bill Haggard- Student Affairs; Bruce Henderson- Psychology; Nell Leatherwood- Center for Regional Development; Wade Livingston- CSP Graduate; Gordon Mercer- College of Arts and Sciences; Patsy Miller- Asheville Programs

QEP Topic:

“From Students to Educated Citizens: Learning Through Engagement (Enhancing Student Learning by Application of Knowledge, Experiential Education, and Professional Endeavor in a Regional and Global community).”

Agenda:

I. Schedule Review

- Minutes from the July 11 meeting were approved.
- Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 12th at 11:00 in the UC Cardinal Room.

II. Report on the Quality Enhancement Institute

- Brian, Scott and Carol attended the SACS Quality Enhancement Institute in Orlando, Florida on July 24-27, 2005.
- A summary sheet was handed out to the committee and included comments representing some of the main ideas gleaned from the institute by the WCU participants.
- The four topics listed on the summary sheet were 1) Student involvement 2) Assessment 3) Focus 4) Support and Infrastructure.
- The comments listed on the summary sheet under each topic were discussed.
- Brian emphasized that SACS evaluation is an on going process.
- The QEP committee needs to recommend how to keep up with the Quality Enhancement Plan once it is put into effect.
- Referencing the new information gained from the SACS Quality Enhancement Institute, Brian suggested that changes to the QEP topic, QEP subcommittees, and QEP process may be needed.

III. Subcommittees

- Subcommittees may have to be reorganized.
- Review subcommittee reports to see if there is information overlap that could be discarded.
- Review the topic and subcommittee reports in light of the Quality Enhancement Institute discussion.
- Subcommittee reports were handed out.

IV. Report from Carol Burton

- The report entitled “Engagement and Other Issues Related to the QEP,” was distributed to committee members. The report is a selection of excerpts from Chancellor Bardo’s speeches on Western Carolina University and the concept of engagement over the last 10 years.
- At Newt’s suggestion, Bill Studenc will see if he can find information on the conference hosted by the university 4 or 5 years ago where the Chancellor introduced “engagement” to the campus community.
- Everyone was invited to attend the Opening Assembly on Thursday, August 18th.

V. Student Involvement

- The question was raised about where to get students who want to be involved in developing the QEP.
- Suggestions included asking students who had completed internships, contacting service learning, and having committee members recommend students.
- Scott shared information from the QEP conference about a student involvement presentation that teamed students with faculty doing quantitative/qualitative research. Additional information will be forwarded to the committee.

VI. Assignments

Review information disseminated.

Consider reorganizing subcommittees to avoid overlap and to help simplify the QEP process.

Analyze the topic in terms of focus, assessment and student involvement.

Recruit students for the QEP Committee.

Meeting adjourned.