Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP)
Topic Selection
What is a QEP?

• Quality Enhancement Plan
• Engaging the wider academic community and addressing one or more issues that contribute to institutional improvement, the plan should be focused, succinct, and limited in length. The QEP describes a carefully designed and focused course of action that addresses a well-defined topic or issue(s) related to enhancing student learning. (from sacscoc.org)
QEP 2007: Synthesis

*Synthesis: A Pathway to Intentional Learning*

The Western Carolina experience is built on a foundation of engaged, intentional learning. Life goals are like climbing mountains. Working as partners in learning, students, faculty, and staff will choose the mountains to climb and the best pathway to get there.
QEP 2017: ??? Design our Future!
Accreditation timeline

- Aug’14: Notification by SACSCOC
- Aug’15: Orientation of Leadership team
- Aug’16: Submit compliance documentation
- Aug’17: Submit QEP documentation
- Dec’17: Onsite review (QEP)
- Aug’17: Offsite review of compliance documentation
- Dec’17: Reaffirmation decision
- 2022 mid-cycle QEP review

QEP Topic Selection
- Plan QEP
- Implement QEP
- Program assessment
QEP Topic Selection Timeline

• Now to March 16\textsuperscript{th}
  Call for QEP Pre-Proposals

• April 2015 – IDEA CONSIDERATION:
  Committee votes on top 5 to 7 ideas

• May 2015 – IDEA DEVELOPMENT:
  Working with those individuals who submitted the top ideas, the QEP Topic Selection Committee will draft white papers for each topic.

  \$1000 award per developed idea.
QEP Topic Selection Timeline

- **August 2015 – IDEA PRESENTATIONS:**
  Campus-wide presentations
- **September 2015 – IDEA SELECTION:**
  Campus-wide vote
- **November 2015 – IDEA PRE-IMPLEMENTATION**
  Pilot projects; assessment and data collection
# Committee Membership

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<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<td>A&amp;S</td>
<td>Channa De Silva</td>
<td>Student Affairs</td>
<td>Kevin Koett</td>
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<td>Business</td>
<td>Jon Marvel</td>
<td>Student Affairs</td>
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<td>CEAP</td>
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<td>F/PA</td>
<td>Andrew Adams</td>
<td>IT</td>
<td>Dan Berk</td>
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<td>HHS</td>
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<td>Coulter Fac. Com.</td>
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<td>Kimmel</td>
<td>Wes Stone</td>
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<td>Library</td>
<td>Beth McDonough</td>
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<td>Honors</td>
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<td>Grad. School</td>
<td>Brian Kloeppel</td>
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<td>SACSCOC</td>
<td>Steve Miller</td>
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QEP Pre-proposals will be judged on:

• **Description (double score)**
  – *(Exemplary)* Clearly describes meaningful impact on student learning experiences that closely link to 2 or 3 measurable student outcomes.

• **Rationale (double score)**
  – *(Exemplary)* Clearly aligns with the 20/20 vision and builds upon strengths or improves weaknesses at WCU.

• **Scope**
  – *(Exemplary)* Can clearly inspire broad participation and address avenues for inclusion across the university.

• **Assessment**
  – *(Exemplary)* Includes 1 or more assessment measures that have been shown to be valid and reliable.
How to Submit your QEP Idea?

• Go to qep.wcu.edu
• Describe your idea in 300 words or less
• Your idea will be considered by the committee anonymously

THANK YOU for being part of the QEP Topic Selection Process!!
Five Components of QEP Review Framework:

1. **An Institutional Process**: The institutional process for identifying key issues emerging from institutional assessment.

   *An excellent QEP:*
   - is directly related to institutional planning efforts.
   - emerged from a topic-selection process from a wide range of constituents.
   - was selected through a representative process.
   - has a direct and strong relationship to institutional needs.
   - will directly improve institutional/student performance.
Five Components of QEP Review Framework:

2. **Focus on the Plan:** The institution identifies a significant issue that (i) focuses on learning outcomes and/or environment supporting student learning and (ii) accomplishes the mission of the institution.

*An excellent QEP:*

- directly ties student learning outcomes to institutional needs.
- Is clearly linked to the improvement of student learning.
Five Components of QEP Review Framework:

3. Institutional Capability for the Initiation, Implementation, and Completion of the Plan:
   The institution provides evidence that it has sufficient resources to initiate, implement, sustain, and complete the QEP

An excellent QEP:
- has detailed budget information, institutional commitment of funds clearly indicated.
- has a detailed timetable that indicates clearly that QEP can be realistically implemented and completed in five years.
Five Components of QEP Review Framework:

4. **Broad-Based Involvement of Institutional Constituencies**: The institution demonstrates the involvement of its constituencies in the development and proposed implementation of the Plan

*An excellent QEP:*

- emerged from a process that ensured input from all relevant constituencies
- has direct involvement from all relevant constituencies in implementation.
Five Components of QEP Review Framework:

5. **Assessment of the Plan:** The institution identifies goals and a plan to assess the achievement of those goals.

*An excellent QEP:*
- has clearly stated goals
- leads to specific measurable outcomes
- is assessed based on clear outcomes

*Adapted from: sacscoc.org*