

Clemson University QEP - Project Development Stage, January 2022

I.) Overview

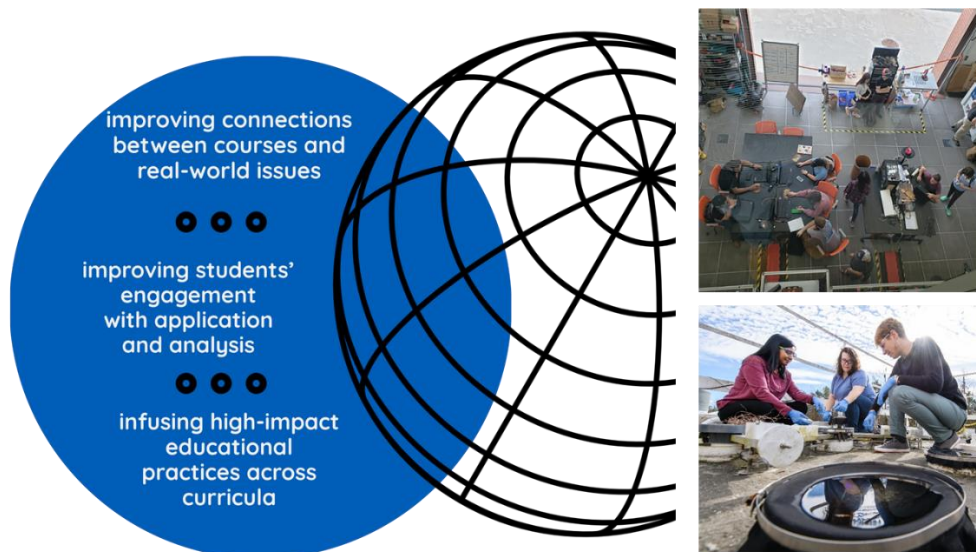
A QEP, or Quality Enhancement Plan, is a SACSCOC core requirement in our next 2023 reaffirmation of accreditation. A plan is forward-looking, centered around a topic focused on student learning and/or student success. The identification of the topic should come from the university's data and planning process and have specific student learning outcomes, which are directly assessed. The topic should be sustainable and reasonable for the intended student population, and resources must be committed to the plan.¹

In 2023, Clemson will initiate our next QEP, which will run from fall 2023 through spring 2028. Between now and spring 2023, we are working to further refine our topic and provide a full plan according to SACSCOC requirements.

II.) What Has Been Determined?

Throughout the 2020-2021 academic year, Clemson's QEP Exploratory Group analyzed data on student learning and student success, identified trends, created data-informed topic suggestions, elicited feedback from the campus,² and created a topic suggestion report for the Office of the Provost.

The topic suggestion for the next QEP proposes that we can enhance student learning by improving connections between courses and real-world issues, improving students' engagement with application and analysis, and infusing high-impact educational practices ("academic experiential learning") across curricula where applicable. The topic has been reviewed with the Office of the Provost, Office of Institutional Excellence for alignment with academic and strategic priorities, and it has been discussed with members of Faculty Senate and Undergraduate Student Government.



¹ For more information, see SACSCOC webpage via <https://sacscoc.org/quality-enhancement-plans/>.

² For an Our Clemson article, see <https://news.clemson.edu/participate-in-survey-to-help-shape-the-universitys-future/>. Anonymous feedback was gathered from 78 individuals (34% staff, 30% undergrad student, 21% faculty, 9% graduate student, 4% alumni, 2% other). Data and feedback were elicited from a sample of students in high-enrollment courses, through Tiger Quest, through faculty/staff/student committees, and from student government representatives. Discussions on the QEP topic were held with the Provost Operations Team, the Academic Affairs Subcommittee of Clemson Undergraduate Student Government, and with the Advisory Committee of Faculty Senate.

III.) What Next?

From spring 2022 through early spring 2023, we will be developing the topic into a full Quality Enhancement Plan. We will also be further refining the topic to seamlessly integrate with the identified needs and opportunities of the revised Clemson strategic plan, currently also under revision.

We seek nominations (including self-nominations) for four subcommittees to operate in tandem. To self-nominate for one of the following subcommittees, please use this link: https://clemson.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_cPegoPkrqCCMAmi. Responses before Feb 1, 2022 are appreciated.

Subcommittee 1. Scope and Activities

Key tasks:

- review the full recommendation report created by the Exploratory Group
- determine curricular and co-curricular activities that should be pursued within the QEP topic
- define the intended student population for QEP activities (undergraduate, graduate, professional, all, mixed, cohorts, etc.)
- establish timelines for years 1-5

Subcommittee 2. Outcomes and Assessment

Key tasks:

- create a set of 2-4 strong student learning outcomes (SLO)
- create a set of 2-4 strong programmatic outcomes (PO)
- determine assessment measures (indirect via surveys, direct via assessment of artifacts and work products) explicitly connected to SLOs and POs
- determine timelines for formative and summative assessment as the QEP unfolds

Subcommittee 3. Baseline Data

Key tasks:

- collect pilot and/or baseline data from current Clemson engaged learning centers, engagement areas, and faculty
- beta-test the assessment measures from Subcommittee 2 to further refine

Subcommittee 4. Resources

Key tasks:

- determine resource needs for initiation, implementation, and completion of QEP
- create a 6-year budget (pre-implementation 22-23, implementation 23-28) for financial resources, human resources (including salaries and personnel), facilities

Steering Committee

Key tasks:

- comprised of the chair of each subcommittee, plus other key stakeholders
- ensures collaboration and synergy between the subcommittees
- determine internal PR to keep people informed

Subcommittees will meet every 3-4 weeks from February 2022 through January 2023. The Steering Committee will meet biweekly from February 2022 through May 2023.