



Memo to: Potential QEP Exploratory Group Members  
From: Dr. Bridget Trogden  
Date: 2/03/2020

The Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) is a SACSCOC requirement to be addressed in our next 2023 reaffirmation of accreditation.

Since Clemson's last QEP (CT<sup>2</sup>), there have been some changes to the requirement, namely:

- It is now standard 7.2, tied to the University's planning and data.
- The topic must focus on the student learning and/or student success.
  - The plan must have specific student learning outcomes.
  - The assessment plan will include direct assessment of the student learning outcomes.
- Recommendations from our SACSCOC Vice President (Steven Sheeley) include:
  - using data to *identify* the topic, not just *choosing* a topic;
  - *piloting* the project prior to the launch rather than starting afresh in fall 2023;
  - ensuring that the plan is *sustainable* and *reasonable* for the intended student population to be impacted; and
  - marshalling *resources* wisely to initiate, implement, and sustain the plan.

Associate Dean Bridget Trogden will be the project leader for the exploratory phase.

Basic timeline:

1. Spring 2020 - Clemson QEP exploratory group is named and begins the task of acquiring and making meaning from data to inform the QEP topic. Anticipated workload: 3-4 hours per month from February-August 2020
2. AY 2020-2021 - Develop a central QEP project idea into a pilot plan; transition exploratory team to a project development team
3. Members of the project development team attend the SACSCOC Summer Institute in 2021 (July 18-21, New Orleans)
4. AY 2021-2022 - Pilot the QEP, gathering baseline data and determining actual resource needs
5. AY 2022-2023 – Complete the QEP document
6. Spring 2023 - QEP plan is due with SACSCOC on-site visit
7. Fall 2023 – QEP officially begins

Alignment of initiatives is crucial. As per SACSCOC VP advice, a QEP should be an integral part of a University's student success strategy at a systems level, not a pet project or a sideshow. The following institutional initiatives could be potentially developed into the next QEP topic, but we are not limited to this list:

- advancing the University's engagement infrastructure
- embedding high-impact practices in the curriculum
- general education re-envisioning
- improvements to curriculum and pedagogy through faculty development
- student learning outcome creation and assessment
- transfer student success strategies
- "right-sizing" the curriculum and the use of graduate teaching assistants
- growing summer term/summer cohorts

An appropriate data-driven exploratory phase is the next necessary step. Please contact Dr. Trogden about membership.

Division of Undergraduate Studies  
Vickery Hall • Clemson, SC 29634  
864.656.3022