QEP Team Meeting Minutes
April 26, 2010, 4:00 p.m., Peabody Boardroom


Those absent: Katie Barlow, Cheryl Dozier, Joe Broder, Paige Carmichael, Pam Kleiber, David Knauft, Bill Potter, Shannon Scott

Rodney Mauricio called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m., and asked that the minutes of the November and January minutes be approved. The team approved the minutes.

Sharron Hannon led a discussion about the selection of a name for the QEP. From the several names discussed, the team agreed to narrow the field to two: First-Year Odyssey and SPARK. Fran Teague suggested that the team consider putting the choice to a vote by the student body.

Rodney then called on the chairs of each of the working groups to present a status report. Those reporting were: Kyle Tchepikow (Student Support), David Lee (Program Design), Shannon Wilder (Faculty Development/Instructional Resources), Meg Amstutz (History), Jan Wheeler (Literature Review—for Pam Kleiber), and Allan Aycock (Outcomes/Assessment). All reported satisfactory progress. Meg added that once we finalize the details of the QEP her group would complete the history section.

Allan elaborated on the Outcomes/Assessment report, explaining that they used the three main goals of the QEP as a basis for constructing outcomes for each. The group has brainstormed about assessment ideas for each outcome, and an assessment plan is being developed. It will include administering the BSSE during the summer (2010) and the NSSE in spring 2011. NSSE benchmarks will be aligned with learning outcomes for the seminars.

Bob Boehmer reported that the budget working group will complete a budget once the QEP is more fully developed. Barb White added that they are looking at all budget components and are also exploring possible funding sources.

Rodney asked the budget group to consider where the tuition "revenue" from the 4800 credit hours to be generated annually by the program should be directed—to the department in which the seminar is taught or to the University in general. Departments might encourage faculty to teach seminars if they could take credit for the credit hours generated by their faculty.

A discussion about the idea of dedicated seminars followed. There appeared to be a consensus that all QEP seminars should be open to all students.
Rodney explained that over the summer a small group would continue to pull the plan together and would then turn it over to Fran for edit. The Leadership Team will consider the plan during its June meeting, and the draft will be sent back to the QEP Team for modifications.

Next the draft would be forwarded to the Curriculum Committee for consideration, with specific recommendations about the course requirement and prefix aspects of the QEP. The next steps would involve the Executive Committee and, finally, University Council.

Rodney will seek letters of support for the QEP from alumni and from the Student Government Association. The Communications group should continue to keep the University community informed about the program. It is not clear if additional meetings of the whole team will be necessary.

The QEP is due to SACS in late fall.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Wheeler