

QEP Core Team

Minutes for January 16, 2015 meeting

In attendance: Constance Boahn, Amy Gustavson, Kaan Ozmeral, Michelle Powell, Shelly Watkins, Kevin Pearson and Heather Willet, co-chair, Scott Byington, co-chair

Thanks to Constance for providing our snacks!

Amy announced that the QEP top 10 video (top 10 reasons to take the QEP survey) is now available on the QEP website.

Much of the meeting centered on reviewing the results from the Professional Development day. Kevin provided a summarized version of the comments from each table, sorted by each goal (see QEP Focus Group Data). Ideas were bulleted and some data that was often cited were discussed. Among the top five ideas generated from the professional development day discussions:

- More technology and lab accessibility
- Better signage on all campuses
- Educate employees and students about financial aid, private loans, and scholarships for students
- Seek partnerships with more businesses (provided scholarship and internships for students)
- Offer more classes at nights and weekends

Initial discussion focused on topics that were based more on campus improvement but less on student learning and how we were to focus primarily on QEP-rich topics. As we did so, we began to center on core areas mentioned in the professional development discussion data as major starting points for focus group conversation. Among the topics identified in the meeting:

- Technology
- Communication
- Fundamental Skills for Lifelong Learning
- Student Engagement
- Teamwork
- Math Literacy

We started a discussion about these topics representing “trees” or main topics, with several branches. For example, technology could be the main “tree” with “branches” including “access,” “affordability”, etc. We hope as part of the focus groups to have participants add more “branches” to the trees and to add “leaves” as well- the ideas that will make that main theme a viable area to explore further. We will feel classifying the discussion into these broad areas will allow other members of the college community to focus their ideas in specific areas.

The discussion centered on the next major tasks- focus groups. Team member responsibilities going forward include:

- Heather/Shelly- will work with Mike Neal on an Ambassador video to promote the QEP for students
- Kaan- Scattergories activities for the focus group sessions

- Michelle- scheduling the focus groups by contacting those faculty/staff that expressed an interest in participating
- Shelly- will work with Mr. Tyson to find a time for Harnett faculty/staff to participate in a focus group
- All QEP members- review the topics from the PD Day to determine if there are any other main ideas or themes that we could use to foster QEP topic discussion in focus groups

The following members are going to try to determine “branches” or subthemes to go with the aforementioned major topics. Each will look for 4-6 subthemes from the collected data:

- Constance, Amy- technology
- Kaan- math literacy
- Shelly- student engagement
- Scott- communication
- Michelle- teamwork
- Kevin- foundational skills for lifelong learning

At our next meeting, we will finalize the plans for the focus groups.

The next meeting is planned for Tuesday, February 3rd, 3:30 p.m., location TBD