

QEP Focus Group Meeting Minutes

Group: Department Chairs

Date: 5/29/13, (1:00-2:20pm)

Present: Battalora, Bush, Corbat, Hines, Joiner, Ponder, Rankin, Rundell, Sanson

Summary Notes:

Initial Reactions to survey data:

Difficult to analyze with all data combined, need to consider by category (e.g., student, faculty, staff)

Seem to want more majors, evening options, more online, lack of offerings

Library services (note that library materials are available 24/7),

Possible topics:

- Focus in areas of Reading Writing and Critical Thinking
- Library component, maybe information literacy combining writing
- Reading Comprehension (students can't read the tests so they don't do well)
- Study Skills, Writing
- Attitude toward learning-what it takes to be successful

Major component:

- General Preparation to be a successful college student
- First year programs
- Effective Communication (reading, writing, verbal)
- Student Engagement (attendance is a problem) don't have a clue as to what is expected
- poor academic skills (reading, writing, critical thinking)
- Peer Mentoring
- Faculty –student interactions

Measurement:

- Have groups that are randomly chosen to form focus groups,
- Students cannot determine learning outcomes, faculty must
- Track to see if there is a difference with USTY 1003 that has been on campus for a while
- Will need to measure across campus, but not every student
- look to other campus measures to determine success
- Needs to be a campus-wide endeavor
- Need to be able to show we have impacted student learning

Conclusion:

- Question/comment forms were taken and participants asked to consider survey comments in light of today's discussion.
- We are looking for a measurable area that is a weakness for our students' academic success which we can target and impact as a campus.
- It will need to be focused, measurable, and meaningful.
- Consider how faculty in your department can influence the topic. We will try to narrow down to 3 or 4 potential areas, is there any expertise you know of on our campus for any of the areas you think are important/potential topics.
- All focus groups will convene again to review the consensus from across the other focus groups.
- Results by constituent groups will be sent to each member of this focus group
- Any additional ideas or thoughts should be forwarded on to the QEP co-directors (Cormier and Treuting)