ETSU QEP:

Pre-proposal
Student Learning Through Community Engagement

Overview

- QEP
- ETSU Strategic Plan
- Engaged Learning
- Linking Community Engagement and Student Success
- Next Steps

Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP)
Due February 20, 2023

1. Topic identified through ongoing, comprehensive evaluation processes
2. Broad-based support of institutional constituencies
3. Focuses on improving specific student learning outcomes and/or student successes
4. Commits resources to initiate, implement and complete
5. Includes a plan to assess achievement

QEP Timeline

- Fall 2021: Prepare (QESC)
  - Review data, select general topic, identify stakeholders, establish support

- Spring 2022-Summer 2022: Draft and Initiate
  - Establish development committee; complete literature/practice review, implementation plan, budget, assessment
  - Hire and train QEP Director; identify lead evaluator

- Fall 2022: Pilot
  - Finalize plan for early feedback (September); Collect baseline data

- February 2023: Submit

ETSU Strategic Plan Pillars

- Supporting a strategic growth agenda that maximizes the student experience both inside and outside the classroom
- Ensuring the diversity and inclusion of people and ideas
- Empowering employees to make ETSU a great place to learn, work and grow
- Supporting excellence in teaching
- Expanding the foundation for scholarly (research and creative activity) excellence and innovation in all disciplines
- Leading the region forward through community engagement and service

Student Success – University Initiatives

- Restructured admissions and functions in Student Life and Enrollment
- Implemented a CRM
- Combined Graduate and Continuing Education
- Restructured advising
- Facility improvements

Diversity and Inclusion – University Initiatives

- Created a VP level position for leading diversity and inclusion
- Strategic plan for diversity and inclusion
- Multicultural Center
- Conducted the HED survey

Empowering Employees – University Initiatives

- Restructured HR and aligned with administration rather than finance
- Implemented changes adding staff and training to better serve employees

Excellence in Teaching – University Initiatives

- Created the Center for Teaching Excellence
- Created the Provost Scholars as a way for faculty to receive professional development

Research and Scholarly Activity – University Initiatives

- Created a VP level position for Clinical Affairs
- Reorganized the ETSU Research Foundation

Community Engagement & Service – University Initiatives

- …

Community-engaged Learning

- **Community-engaged Learning (synonymous with Community-based Learning)**
  - denotes academically-based community engaged courses that may integrate a range of teaching and learning strategies, including, but not limited to: service-learning, Co-op, externship, internship, practicum, clinical, capstone, research project, public service, practice-based learning, experiential education, and experiential learning

Linking Educational Outcomes and Community Engagement

- Civic Engagement and Student Success: Leveraging Multiple Degrees of Achievement | Association of American Colleges & Universities (aacu.org)
  - As a strategic educational approach, civic engagement works. Thoughtful and purposefully designed civic engagement activities yield greater learning and increased graduation rates in K–12 schools, community colleges, and four-year institutions (Astin and Vogelgesang 2006; Bridgeland, DiIulio, and Morison 2006; Prentice and Robinson 2010).
  - In fact, Gent (2007) has argued that civic engagement is one way to ensure that no student is left behind

QEP Topic

- Community Engaged Learning

QEP Vision

- ETSU undergraduate students will build on their (formal) classroom education through participation in (structured) experiential learning beyond the classroom, which will help them to develop a significant and sophisticated understanding of the ways in which the context of the world community intersects with disciplinary knowledge.

QEP Goals

- **Expand experiential learning opportunities:** Develop an infrastructure to support a more diverse offering of experiential learning opportunities, including internships, undergraduate research, and community engaged learning.

- **Develop experiential learning culture:** Create a model of enhanced, strategic, and structured professional development to support faculty in developing experiential learning opportunities that intentionally address academic connections, career development, and transferability of knowledge and skills.

- **Provide support for students engaged in experiential learning:** Provide resources and services to help students understand and articulate the skills and knowledge they develop as they engage in experiential learning, thereby increasing their career readiness.

- **Document and promote opportunities:** that are mutually beneficial to both the student and organization being served.

QEP Learning Outcomes

Each student who completes an approved QEP Engaged Learning Activity will demonstrate the:

- Ability to identify a problem, issue, question, or project relevant to a specific learning community and an approach to address it.

- Ability to apply intellectual tools acquired in the classroom to the proposed problem that exists beyond the classroom.

- Ability to evaluate and communicate the success and impact of a personal effort to address that problem.

Next Steps

- Spring 2022 and beyond
  - Develop formal proposal with assessment plans and being the implementation process

Summary

- Proposed QEP topic:
  - Community Engaged Learning – combines efforts related to community service and career exploration throughout the undergraduate experience
- Intended to create an office and provide resources for activities that are currently happening but not coordinated across the enterprise, as well as expand opportunities for students to engage in a relevant way with the comm
- Not intended to be burdensome for faculty or delay the time to degree for students

QUESTIONS