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, Dilulio, 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
What percent of ETSU students are First-Generation?