

**Mississippi University for Women
Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP)
Criteria, Process, and Timeline
Proposals for QEP Topic**

SACSCOC Requirement 7.2:

“The institution has a Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) that (a) has a topic identified through its ongoing, comprehensive planning and evaluation processes; (b) has broad-based support of institutional constituencies; (c) focuses on improving specific student learning outcomes and/or student success; (d) commits resources to initiate, implement, and complete the QEP; and (e) includes a plan to assess achievement.”

Introduction

The QEP is mandated by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACSCOC), the regional accrediting association of which MUW is a member. It will be an important component of the re-accreditation application and self-study that must be completed prior to the spring 2024 site visit by SACSCOC. SACSCOC expects the QEP to be “transformative” for the institution and that the institution will commit the necessary resources to insure a successful implementation of the QEP. The QEP should be regarded as an **opportunity** to put in place a plan that will have a major impact on student learning and student success.

All proposals will be vetted by the entire campus and narrowed down to the three best that demonstrate the required criteria identified below. The three proposals will be awarded \$1,000 each. The campus will choose the best of the three during the last phase of selection. The winning proposal will receive an award of \$2,500, along with seeing university-wide implementation of their QEP plan and the possibility of being the QEP Director for the duration of the project.

Proposals for Topic

The selection and implementation of the Quality Enhancement Plan is the responsibility of the entire campus. The QEP Team will oversee the process for selecting and implementing the QEP. The first stage of the process, which must be accomplished by January 29th, is for the campus community to prepare proposals to be considered for the QEP Topic. During the spring 2022 semester, there will be a campus-wide process to review the proposals and select one QEP Topic for development and implementation.

Resources from the SACSCOC website, numerous resources are available:

Resource Manual for The Principles of Accreditation, Standard 7.2, page 58
<https://sacscoc.org/app/uploads/2019/08/2018-POA-Resource-Manual.pdf>

QEPs: Lists and Summaries Since 2007

<https://sacscoc.org/quality-enhancement-plans/>

QEP SACSCOC Policy Statement

<https://sacscoc.org/app/uploads/2020/01/Quality-Enhancement-Plan-1.pdf>

An Evaluative Framework for the QEP

<https://sacscoc.org/app/uploads/2019/08/Quality-Enhancement-Plan-Framework.pdf>

A QEP page will be set up on the MUW website with links to additional resources.

Initial Proposals. The QEP Team will send out to the campus a “call for proposals” to solicit proposals for the QEP Topic. The proposals may come from individuals or a small group. The proposal should demonstrate an impact on the institution in terms of student “knowledge, skills, behaviors, and/or values.”

Proposal Content:

Focuses on improving specific student learning outcomes and/or student success (enhancing student knowledge, skills, behaviors, and/or values)

The proposal

- Demonstrates careful review of research and best practices related to the topic or issue
- Demonstrates how the proposal topic is related to the current Strategic Priorities and Goals or is evident in the Institutional Effectiveness process.
- Demonstrates specific goals to be obtained through QEP implementation
- Demonstrates why the goals are related to the institution mission
- Demonstrates clearly defined learning outcomes and/or student success measures that lead to observable results
- Demonstrates clear plan for assessment of observable results (evaluating the extent to which the goals of the plan are attained)
- Demonstrates clear plan for use of results for quality improvement of student learning and/or student success
- Demonstrates clearly how topic should result in desired “impacts” as a result of improvement of student learning and/or student success

Proposal indicates measures for developing institutional support for the Quality Enhancement Plan

The proposal

- Demonstrates provisions for broad-based institutional participation and building consensus among key constituency groups (e.g., committee review processes)
- Demonstrates adequate budget planning necessary to develop, implement, and sustain the QEP
- Demonstrates adequate human resource planning necessary to develop, implement, and

- sustain the QEP
- Demonstrates strategies that include a clear timeline and assignment of responsibilities necessary to develop, implement, and sustain the QEP.

The complete proposals will be reviewed by the QEP Team, PIE Council, Administrative Council, and made available to the entire campus for a review and feedback period. Using feedback from these groups, the QEP Team will select several proposals to be considered by the entire campus. The selection of the QEP Topic will be made by the end of the spring semester following a series of campus-wide discussions.

Fall 2021- Spring 2022 Schedule:

November 4: Criteria and process information distributed to campus.

November 10 & 12: Educational sessions/webinars/listening sessions

January 31: All Proposals Due to QEP Team

February 2: Proposals published on QEP website for campus review and comments

February 21: Campus Review period closes

February 26: All proposal creators are notified of any recommended changes to be considered to move forward in the process

March 18: Resubmissions with any changes due, Top 3 Proposals Selected

March 18-25: Proposals reviewed by QEP Team, PIE Council, Administrative Council, and President's Cabinet and feedback provided to QEP Team.

March 28-31: Campus-wide process for selecting QEP Topic

April 1: QEP proposal announced