

QEP Executive Summary

Write to Learn, Write to Earn

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Beaufort County Community College's Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) establishes a campus-wide project designed to enhance the written communication skills of BCCC graduates. The QEP is designed to produce the following student learning outcome in writing for BCCC graduates in all instructional divisions: *Students will write unified, organized, and developed documents and will apply conventional English grammar and usage.* BCCC began implementing courses from four general education areas (business, sciences, social sciences, and humanities), in addition to English, to pilot the integration of writing instruction in the 2008-09 academic year. Additional courses will be added in subsequent years of the plan. Selected faculty are participating in a series of professional development workshops and other focused activities to assist them to identify and to implement specific strategies in which writing is used as an enhancement to achieve existing course outcomes. Professional development has included specialized training from writing consultants with expertise in designing writing projects that involve multiple curriculums. As the QEP project expands, additional faculty will engage in similar professional development activities. In addition, trained and experienced BCCC faculty will become mentors and trainers for their peers. The QEP defines strategies for assessing student proficiency in writing, including the development and implementation of rubrics. A key element of the QEP will be the establishment of a writing center that will employ peer and faculty tutors. The writing center will work with both students and staff to establish an institutional culture that integrates writing in the college curriculum. The writing center will also include an online writing lab or OWL. The QEP is designed as an ongoing initiative and is incorporated into Beaufort County Community College's long-range plan and budget.

