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Office of Academic Affairs

Find Your Compass: Developing a Basis for Ethical Decision Making
Campbellsville University
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According to data gathered by the General Education Committee, Campbellsville University student's ethical decision-making skills fell far short of other core undergraduate objectives. After examining several potential QEP plans, the QEP Committee determined that enhancing our student's ethical-decision making skills was the paramount need. This selection of this QEP topic fits succinctly with Campbellsville University's mission to prepare servant leaders who can participate with integrity in a diverse, global society. As a faith-based institution of higher education, the University seeks to foster a learning environment in which students can develop a moral compass, effectively use tools to address personal and professional moral dilemmas, and disagree respectfully with those who hold opposing viewpoints. As a result, the focus of our Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) is to integrate, promote, and enhance ethical decision-making throughout the undergraduate programs at Campbellsville University.

The scholarly research surrounding ethical decision-making over the past twenty years is built upon long-standing theoretical underpinnings. Recent studies of best practice that contributed to the development of the Campbellsville University QEP, inform our understanding of ethical theory, integration of ethics across university curriculum, student outcomes to be expected, and ethical decision-making models. Additionally, case studies from institutions that have recently implemented a QEP with a similar focus provide valuable information for QEP Committee consideration.

The Campbellsville University QEP, known as *Find Your Compass*, will require continued campus-wide engagement and support over the next five years. Commitment from faculty representing all undergraduate programs of study, administration, and the student government association is essential if we are to recognize the success of the QEP goals. The Action Plan, implemented in three phases with corresponding assessment checkpoints, includes five distinct actions each with objectives designed to support the expected QEP student learning outcomes.

• Action One: First Year Experience

Action Two: 400 Level Core Course Within Major

Action Three: Capstone Exit ExamAction Four: Campus Involvement

• Action Five: Faculty

The assessment plan that guides the QEP decision-making process utilizes qualitative and quantitative methods to assess the impact of the program on student outcomes and describes the diagnostic, formative, and summative assessment instruments and strategies.