

Quality Enhancement Plan for Mars Hill College

QEP Title: Write – Learn – Know

Institution Name: Mars Hill College

QEP Director and Contact:

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Write - Learn – Know seeks to improve students' ability to produce quality written documents for general, professional and academic audiences, and to increase the intentional use of writing as a tool for learning disciplinary content, developing critical thinking, and constructing new knowledge. The goals of this plan are (1) to establish a Writing in the Disciplines (WID) program that will include participation of 40% of the major programs on campus and will strengthen teaching, learning and assessment of the writing component of these courses; and (2) to strengthen and expand services that provide support for writing and writing instruction. The Mars Hill College community chose this topic after a series of campus conversations and surveys that included students, faculty, staff, administration, board members, alumni, and community partners.

Each goal is accompanied by multiple measures, student learning outcomes, and aligned internal and external assessments. Our plan includes detailed timelines, leadership responsibilities, and resources necessary to accomplish each goal and its objectives. Specific implementation strategies and accompanying timelines for meeting stated goals include:

- Designing sophomore/junior level and senior level WID courses in the majors (Beginning Jan. 2011 and cont. throughout the 5-year phase-in)
- Selecting a common handbook for use across campus (Spring 2011)
- Enhancing MHC Writing Center (Beginning Fall 2010)
- Developing Writing Fellows Program ((Beginning Jan. 2011 and cont. throughout the 5-year phase-in)
- Developing a collaborative network of peer institution/area/ACA writing center and QEP directors for external assessment purposes (Completed by 2012)

An assessment system that seeks to monitor the progress of the QEP takes into account the internal and external nature of program evaluation, relying on a timely decision making model. Internal assessments will include course embedded assessments, use of common rubrics, portfolios, and peer tutor evaluations. External assessments will include external program review and reviews completed by the collaborative network.

The QEP, fully approved in November, 2010, will be implemented by the end of the 2015 academic year. At the end of the five-year period, the QEP Advisory Committee will review progress of the QEP and create an updated plan for sustainability of the **Write-Learn-Know** program and its initiatives to ensure successful curricular reform.