



Quality Enhancement Plan Executive Summary
Camaraderie of Writers:
Increasing Writing Proficiency Across the Curriculum

The Montreat College Quality Enhancement Plan is a Writing Across the Curriculum initiative that adds classroom-based peer writing tutors and faculty training to our already successful drop-in center services. The focus statement reads: The Camaraderie of Writers Program honors Christ by equipping students to cultivate excellence in their writing. The program values: peer mentoring as a means of achieving a culture of academic excellence; writing as a process of thought; and faculty, as well as students, as dynamic learners. Our program model is simple and collaborative. Classroom-based student tutors (Writing Scholars--WS), work with faculty members (Faculty Writing Fellows—FWF), and their students (Student Writers—SW) in one course per semester. The Faculty, Tutor, and Student should then begin to cultivate a shared knowledge and vocabulary about writing assignments, the writing process, and writing assessment.

The Student Learning Outcomes of the Student Writers represent the core of the program's desired outcome: to cultivate excellence in writing. The two key SLOs of Student Writers are the ability to analyze and extend the writing process and the ability to effectively assess their own written work. The SLOs of the Writing Scholars are the ability to analyze the strongest and weakest aspects of a Student Writer's draft, the ability to assess peer writing, and the ability to communicate clearly about writing. The FWF Learning Outcomes are to demonstrate change in their ability to assign, give feedback, and rank students as well as to demonstrate application of the Montreat College writing rubric. The assessment plan uses both an external nationally-normed measure (CAAP exam), and internal measures (surveys and portfolios) to capture the data necessary to track trends of improvement.

Montreat College's QEP grew out of pre-existing concerns over student writing ability and initiatives implemented to address those concerns dating back to 2006. The QEP team gathered needs assessment data through an institution-wide survey, a syllabi audit, and competency exam scores to pinpoint a valid concern. Through countless discussions and deliberate planning, the QEP process has enhanced our institution's ability to fulfill its mission of equipping agents of transformation, renewal and reconciliation.

The Camaraderie of Writers has a full-time Director and Advisory Board that report to the Provost. The Director annually recruits and trains new Writing Scholars and Faculty Writing Fellows. Writing Scholars are trained in a three-hour credit course and receive a stipend for each semester of participation. Faculty Writing Fellows are trained in a two-day summer workshop and in weekly meetings throughout the first semester of participation. FWFs receive a course release during the training phase of the program and are offered a stipend for professional development. Program-related Learning Circles are also conducted annually for campus-wide faculty development.

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