

Title: *Enhancing Student Academic Engagement*
Institution: Nova Southeastern University
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Executive Summary: Nova Southeastern University (NSU) developed its QEP with the primary objective of enhancing student academic engagement. The plan is based on the premise that academic engagement will enhance the quality of the students' educational experience, including the enhancement of learning. With academic engagement as the common guiding principle, each of the 16 academic units (colleges or schools) at NSU has designed a project suited to its specific learning environment. These projects converge within three general areas:

Enhancing academic engagement by

- Increasing student participation in research and scholarly activities
- Increasing academic dialogue and exchange
- Enhancing the quality of clinical experiences

To implement the QEP, each of the 16 NSU academic units has elected one of the above strategies to implement its plan of action. Each unit's action plan has clearly articulated learning outcomes which, in turn, link to NSU's overarching learning outcomes. Although these action plans have been designed to enhance a particular aspect of academic student engagement identified for their own constituencies, all units of NSU will learn from the valuable lessons generated throughout the entire QEP. Enhancing Student Academic Engagement as an integrated learning system will therefore allow NSU to generate new knowledge and wisdom for the benefit of all its students across the entire spectrum of student academic engagement processes and outcomes generated through its Quality Enhancement Plan. NSU will capitalize on its centralized-decentralized system by exporting best practices and assessment plans from one unit to another as the university functions as one knowledge management system with 16 innovative units.

The QEP Committee consisting of each academic unit's QEP director and alternate meet quarterly. These meetings, along with NSU's QEP web site, web CT area, and sub-committees comprised of strategy-specific units, allow for rich and ongoing dialogue about data collected, successes achieved and shared assessment techniques.