



SOUTH LOUISIANA COMMUNITY COLLEGE QEP EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Can You Read It...? ***Changing the Way You Read***

South Louisiana Community College (SLCC) serves the Acadiana region of south Louisiana by seeking to provide an environment in which students “develop qualities and skills necessary to engage in the economy, governance, and diverse cultures of the community.” In developing its QEP, SLCC identified improvement of reading in the discipline as a focal point for enhancing the quality of the college in seeking to fulfill its mission.

The goal of the SLCC Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) is to improve students’ reading skills in the discipline through the integration of four teaching strategies: vocabulary building, identifying main ideas, summarizing, and concept mapping. Improvement in reading skills is expected to lead directly to improvements in student learning and overall college success.

The process of identifying the QEP topic involved campus and community discussions, stakeholder surveys, attendance at professional development activities, review of applicable literature, and identification and implementation of a QEP Implementation Team with three subcommittees. The Team deliberated on potential topics and considered a number of objectives to be accomplished during the QEP process. The process of selecting reading as the QEP focus included consideration of program educational objectives, student outcomes, performance indicators, assessment and evaluation.

Student learning objectives are also integral to the QEP. Objectives related to reading as a focus area specify that students shall accomplish identified criteria at specific achievement levels. These objectives address the four reading strategies identified by constituents and research as necessary components in a successful reading improvement program. In order to facilitate achievement of reading objectives, faculty and staff will engage in professional development activities specifically designed to implement these reading strategies.

In order to address gaps in the QEP development process and close the loop, the SLCC QEP Implementation Team engaged in the culminating activity of outlining a five-year action plan which includes a timeline for the development and implementation of specific activities. Development of the QEP has driven the College to engage constituents in discussions about improvement needs, review literature to create a research-based foundation for guiding improvement, and generate a synergy between and among stakeholders to develop action plans designed to generate improvement.

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