University of Louisville 102 Grawemeyer Hall Louisville, KY 40292

Dr. James R. Ramsey, President

Type of Report:

Executive Summary - Quality Enhancement Plan

Status:

Reaffirmed December 2007

SACS Liaison:

Connie C. Shumake

Director of Accreditation and Program Management

University of Louisville 338 Miller Technology Center

Louisville, KY 40292

Quality Enhancement Plan:

Ideas to Action: Using Critical Thinking to Foster Student Learning and Community Engagement (I2A)

Primary QEP Contact:

Patricia R. Payette, Ph.D.

Executive Director - Ideas to Action Delphi Center for Teaching & Learning

Ekstrom Library, 244 D University of Louisville Louisville, KY 40292 patty.payette@louisville.edu

Ph: (502) 852-5171

Fax: (502) 852-0393

Summary Report

The UofL plan, Ideas to Action (I2A), will sharpen our existing focus on building undergraduate students' critical thinking skills, starting in the general education program and continuing through undergraduate major courses. Students will be required to demonstrate their critical-thinking skills in a culminating experience, such as a service learning project, internship, thesis, or capstone project.

The I2A Task Group, made up of unit representatives, has been meeting regularly and working diligently to create the infrastructure to educate the university community more fully. The team members and unit facilitators lead the ongoing effort to develop, implement and assess Ideas to Action within and across curricular and co-curricular programs. The facilitators work to foster the development and implementation of curricular and programmatic changes to support I2A within their respective units.

The I2A staff is based at the Delphi Center for Teaching and Learning located in the main university library. Programs and workshops to support faculty training, promote the scholarship of critical thinking, and the development of culminating experiences have begun. More information is available at http://louisville.edu/ideastoaction/