Update: February 2, 2012

The QEP Steering Committee hosted a campus forum to update the Armstrong Community on the status of the QEP. Representatives of each QEP subcommittee reported on its accomplishments so far. Then Laura Barrett, co-chair of the QEP steering team, fielded questions and reported on further accomplishments on the horizon. Approximately one hundred faculty, staff, and students attended the forum. Topics discussed were as follows:

- A quick synopsis of the QEP selection process and identification of the QEP as a required first-year seminar with a focus on information literacy.
- A report on how the work of the QEP has been subdivided.
- A report from the curriculum design committee, which recommends a one-hour seminar course linked to a core course. The committee chair explained the structure, credits awarded, class size, faculty, training, and workload recommendations for this added course.
- A report from the SLO/assessment committee, which recommends four student learning outcomes with a three-pronged assessment, one of which will be offered online, one which will be administered by faculty, and the third which will be administered through a survey.

A meeting of all subcommittees is scheduled to take place February 10, 2012. Subcommittees continue their work in planning this campus-wide endeavor.

Update January 6, 2012

The QEP Steering Committee hosted a department heads’ forum to inform them of the status of the QEP and field questions/concerns from the academic entities affected by this new project. Steering committee co-chair Laura Barrett explained that the QEP will be a required first-year seminar linked to a core course with a focus on information literacy. Chairs of subcommittees presented their accomplishments to date, with the emphasis being on the work of the curriculum design and student learning outcomes and assessment committees. The steering committee announced that the QEP will be piloted during Fall 2012, using the university’s current AASU courses. Department heads then voiced their questions and concerns, most of them having to do with registration challenges considering the proposed reduced core class sizes and logistical challenges considering the anticipated closing of Gamble Hall and the need for additional classroom space to house the added courses. At least one department head voiced concern over adding an hour to the core curriculum when some academic programs already require the maximum of credit hours allowed by the Board of Regents. Members of the steering committee took note of all the questions and concerns and will keep them in mind as they continue to plan the QEP. Because department heads in the College of Health Professions were unable to attend this forum, Doug Frazier, Laura Barrett, Greg Anderson, and Donna Brooks met with them separately. A campus wide forum is scheduled for February 2, 2012.
Update December 5, 2011

Several QEP team members traveled to Orlando, Florida to attend the SACS-COC annual convention. Those in attendance were President Linda Bleicken, VPAA Anne Thompson, Assistant VPAA John Kraft, David Carson, Doug Frazier, Laura Barrett, Mary Anne Brock, Nancy Remler, and Abby Willcox. All team members gathered valuable information for continuing with Armstrong’s progress toward reaffirmation and developing Armstrong’s QEP.