Armstrong’s Quality Enhancement Plan

The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges asks universities to develop a plan to enhance student learning as a part of the reaffirmation of accreditation. This plan is known as the Quality Enhancement Plan or QEP.

The search for the best QEP for Armstrong is about to begin. President Bleicken formed a QEP Steering Committee to help search for an ideal QEP. The charge of this steering committee is to create a process by which QEP proposals are solicited from Armstrong faculty and staff and to recommend to President Bleicken up to three QEP proposals.

As a first step this web site is designed to help Armstrong constituents learn more about the QEP and inspire a QEP idea. We invite all those with interests in student learning at Armstrong to read these materials and learn about QEPs. Students, alumni, faculty emeriti, community members with an interest in Armstrong, faculty and staff are all welcome to contribute QEP ideas. Only faculty and staff may submit actual proposals, but if you are a student, alumni, community member, or faculty emeriti, you can work with a faculty or staff member to submit a QEP proposal.

Have an Idea for the QEP?

Good QEP ideas should be based on research on institutional effectiveness or external research relevant to Armstrong’s mission. For example, the Strategic Planning and Resource Council (SPARC) report will be released soon and should be an excellent resource for QEP ideas. Also, the Enrollment Management Council has submitted a report to the Board of Regents on issues of retention, progression, and graduation which also may suggest QEP proposals. Other information may be found on Armstrong’s Institutional Research website.

Based on research, QEPs address student learning by either focusing on student learning outcomes or student learning environments. QEP proposals should address a specific student learning need for Armstrong, but the plan should impact as many students as possible.

Other important qualities of a good QEP include: providing opportunity for all Armstrong constituents to have input on its development, ensuring that Armstrong has the capacity to properly implement the QEP, and establishing measurement guidelines and reporting mechanisms.

Please see the next section for more information about QEPs and see our QEP resource page for additional resources. This page includes links to important SACS documents but also executive summaries of approved QEPs from the last three years. We recommend that you view all these materials as you prepare and learn about QEPs.

QEP Open Forum

The QEP Steering Committee will be hosting a forum on January 21, 2010 from noon – 1:30 p.m. in University Hall Room 156 to discuss QEPs and Armstrong’s QEP proposal process. The first step in the proposal will be a short proposal (about 1 page worth of writing) that describes the topic of the QEP proposal, some references to a documented need for the QEP topic, and a sketch of the QEP implementation.

If you have any questions or comments, please send them to a QEP steering committee member.

We welcome your comments.