

SWTJC QUALITY ENHANCEMENT PLAN (QEP) MEETING

May 29, 2015
9:00 am – 3:00 pm
Uvalde –Matthews Conf. Rooms

Meeting called by: Dr. M. Burchfield & Randa Schell **Type of meeting:** Planning Meeting
Facilitator: _____ **Note taker:** Hannah Gonzalez

Timekeeper: TBA
Attendees: Committee Members
Please read: _____
Please bring: _____

AGENDA ITEMS

Topic	Presenter	Time allotted
✓ Welcome and Introductions	Mitchel	9:00-9:15 am
✓ Updates on QEP (Website, Report, Logos, Marketing)	Mitchel and Randa	9:15-9:45 am
✓ Break	All	9:45-10:00 am
✓ Critical Thinking and CREDO	Kathy Fagan	10:00-11:00 am
✓ Break	All	11:00-11:15 am
✓ SACS-COC QEP Rubric	Mitchel and Randa	11:15-12:00 noon
✓ Lunch	All	12:00-1:00 pm
✓ Learning Framework	Russ Hodges	1:00-2:00 pm
✓ Break	All	2:00-2:15 pm
✓ Preparing for the On-Site Visit	All	2:15-2:45 pm
✓ Wind-Up and Questions	All	2:45-3:00 pm

OTHER INFORMATION

Observers: Division chairs, other interested faculty, and students
Resources: Academic Transformations (A Learning Framework textbook)
Special notes: Lyrics to the QEP song will be provided; Ismael Martinez will video; Music by Oscar Gaytan and Hector Lopez

Minutes of the May 29, 2015 QEP Retreat

The meeting began at 9:00 a.m. with introductions and a welcome message from Dr. Mitchel Burchfield and Randa Schell. Attendees (see list) were informed of the purpose of the retreat and items on the agenda were mentioned. The purpose of the meeting was to continue the committee's work on the QEP and specifically to discuss strategies for achieving the stated goals of improving "critical thinking" and "student engagement."

Randa Schell showed the group the new QEP Website (still under construction) and gave an update on the QEP Logo Contest results. Southwest Texas Junior College students Brian Kimble of Uvalde and Rolando Delgado of Eagle Pass were announced as the co-winners of the Quality Enhancement Plan Logo Contest. The contest produced fifteen logo submissions by eleven students. A total of 425 votes were cast electronically by faculty, staff and students. Kimble and Delgado were awarded a Kindle Fire while all contest participants received an SWTJC goody bag.

Randa also mentioned some of the future plans for marketing the QEP during the coming months. Scheduled meetings with staff during the summer will be used to communicate the details of the plan. There are also plans to distribute T-shirts with the logos to staff, faculty, and students who complete a survey about the QEP.

The committee listened to a presentation by Kathy Fagan from CREDO about how her company could help SWTJC in achieving the goals set forth in the QEP.

Kathy Fagan is the Senior Strategic Account Executive for CREDO. She said, "When it comes to helping you accomplish your goals, I hope you can see how Credo will help you deepen your outreach to your students and at the same time offer a concrete path to developing the critical thinking skills that are such an important part of your QEP and accreditation process. Among other tools at your disposal, the Credo **resources** (the research platform, deeper discipline content, and IL courseware) will allow faculty and librarians to foster **new interactions** that will generate greater **student engagement** than ever before." (bold lettering is added)

One concern mentioned by Dr. Burchfield, is how the reporting and measurement of critical thinking occurs. There was no report shown during the presentation, but Kathy mentioned it could be generated for by Credo as part of their consulting services. She reported the platform has the ability to attach metadata to each assessment question that tags the specific critical thinking standard (ACRL) which would allow SWTJC to generate our own reports.

Some of the positive features of CREDO's course/tutorial product includes:

- ACRL-aligned, ADA-compliant content, aimed at improving students' research and critical thinking skills, embeddable in your LMS
- An assessment platform that will provide you analytics highlighting learning gaps and outcomes achieved
- Consulting and customization services to ensure that the lessons delivered to your students meet SWTJC criteria and learning outcomes

For the college's FTE, the subscription price for the software for unlimited users is \$7,500. We agreed that the best first step is to have Karen Baen, April Cole and a few faculty and students trial the courseware during a timeframe that's agreeable to all. Also, some schools have committed to or are considering a paid

pilot for the fall semester and for a use case of our choosing (at SWTJC perhaps COLS or Composition) which would cost \$4,000. The committee also discussed the possibilities of CREDO being used as part of the EDUC 1100 Learning Frameworks courses. Since every core curriculum class has “critical thinking” as one of the measurable SLOs, the CREDO might be useful for providing a way to perform that function.

The next item on the agenda involved reviewing the rubric from SACSCOC for evaluating the QEP. Randa informed the committee that we plan to produce a QEP that scores the highest possible points on the rubric, indicating that there were not weaknesses in the plan. Committee members were encouraged to become familiar with the rubric and to use it when they read the final draft of the College’s QEP this summer.

With Oscar Gaytan and Hector Lopez playing guitars, the committee sang the QEP song written to the music of “She’ll Be Coming Around the Mountain.” Some of the committee members mentioned the possibility of finding a tune that would resonate with the SWTJC students and producing an additional song.

After lunch, The committee participated in a workshop conducted by Dr. Russ Hodges, professor at Texas State College and co-author of *Academic Transformation*. He presented information about “First Year Experience” courses and specifically about how the EDUC 100 Learning Frameworks course could be taught at SWTJC. His interactive presentation included an overview of how the Learning Frameworks course differs from a “Study Skills” course and the best way to use his book (which was adopted for the EDUC 1100 course). He provided several articles with background information about teaching a Learning Frameworks course and also provided a class syllabus with details about which chapters he would focus on if he were teaching the class himself. A copy of his PowerPoint presentation will be uploaded to the shared files folder for the committee. Dr. Hodges indicated that he and the publisher, Pearson, would provide continued support to SWTJC as the EDUC 1100 course is offered in the fall and spring semesters. He will come and do workshops for faculty assigned to teach the course.

The last item on the agenda involved getting ready for the SACSCOC visit in October 2015. Committee members were presented with hypothetical questions that might be asked by member of the visiting committee:

1. As a committee member, what was your contribution to the QEP?
2. How did you become a member on the QEP committee?
3. How will the QEP affect the student you work with?
4. What process did the committee use to identify the topic for the QEP/
5. What are some of the high impact practices that you expect to see implemented from your QEP?
6. What will your role be in the implementation of the QEP?
7. What was the hardest part of being a QEP member?
8. What was the best part of being a QEP committee member?

The attendees were divided into small groups and took turns asking each other the above questions. After sufficient time, several committee members volunteered to role play the questions and answers for selected questions with Dr. Burchfield in front of the group. Dr. Burchfield encouraged the members of the committee to think about how they would respond to questions like these and to discuss the QEP details with fellow faculty and staff during the upcoming months. The goal is to have everyone familiar with RISE and its goals. Every staff member and faculty member should know that the acronym RISE, stands for Resources + Interactions = Student Engagement, and that the focus of the plan is to enhance the

quality of the college by improving Critical Thinking (measured in the core curriculum) and Student Engagement (measured by CCSSE) by infusing High Impact Education Practices (see list on QEP brochure) throughout the curriculum.

The meeting was adjourned with plans for everyone to stay in touch via email and the QEP SWTJC Portal website.

Minutes provided by Hannah Gonzalez (recorder and)
and Dr. Mitchel Burchfield (QEP co-chair)

QEP Retreat
May 29, 2015
9:00 am

Matthews Conference Room – Uvalde Campus

Name	Email	Phone	T-Shirt Size	Initials
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2. Juan Aviles				
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9. David Conde				
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12. Pat Garcia				
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14. Muraya Gonzalez				
15. Xaviera Haynes	Xhaynes@swtjc.edu	X7393	XL	XH

Name	Email	Phone	T-Shirt Size	Initials
16. Rosie Lara				
17. Rolando Lira	<i>RL</i>	830-714-6964	L	<i>RL</i>
18. Hector Lopez	<i>H Lopez</i>	830-386-3324	L	<i>HDL</i>
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20. Luis Perez				
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