

University of South Carolina
Quality Enhancement Plan Proposal Committee
Minutes
May 12, 2010
11:00 a.m.

Attendees: Helen Doerpinghaus (Ex-officio), Ashley Cohen-Burnell (student), John Gardner (Ex-officio), Sara Krivak (International Programs), Jeremy Lane (Music), Jed Lyons (CTE), John McDermott (Economics), Phil Moore (Ex-officio), Bruce Nims (Lancaster) Dennis Pruitt (Ex-officio), Irma Van Scoy (Education/Chair)

Absent: Susanne Hicklin (Institutional Assessment), Valinda Littlefield (History)

1. The minutes of last meeting (April 28, 2010) were distributed and approved.
2. IdeaPOP was announced.
3. Irma Van Scoy stated that the main agenda at this meeting was to discuss the draft of proposal and noted that she had received comments from John Gardner and Susanne Hicklin.
4. Major topics included the following:
 - a. Major goals/learning outcomes: The Committee tentatively agreed to the three proposed outcomes. Helen proposed altering the first outcome as follows:

Students will purposefully select and plan academic and out of classroom experiences.

More discussion on learning outcomes will follow.
 - b. Auditing integrative learning: Dennis summarized how Florida State collected data on integrative learning opportunities. Jed proposed tracking integrative learning using the same processes already in place to audit students' lower division and upper division requirements. DARS was suggested as a possibility for auditing integrative learning. Helen expressed concern over the lack of resources to track the integrative learning of all undergraduates. The new technology being developed was also suggested as a means of tracking participation.
 - c. Introducing the concept of integrative learning to students: John Mc Dermott warned that with the increased demands placed on faculty, advising each student in terms of developing an individualized learning plan will not be well received by faculty. Students must be encouraged and empowered to develop a learning plan on their own. Some committee members expressed concern over the use of University 101 to introduce integrative learning to students, since not all students take University 101. John Gardner pointed out that the introduction to integrative learning should be systemic, and that orientation and University 101 could be used to reach all students. Upon request, John explained the purpose of University 101 and why so many students elect to take it. Dennis stated that over

70% of the new incoming freshman class will take University 101, with 170 section being offered. The First-Year Reading Experience was suggested as another means of introducing students to integrative learning, as was residence hall activities. Many agreed with Jed's observation that introducing students to integrative learning should take place during the first year, but that integrative learning will probably not take place during the first year, since first year students are struggling with the transition to college life.

- d. Assessing integrative learning during the final year: Helen expressed concern over requiring a capstone course, since large enrollments in some majors precludes this option. John Gardner recommended using University 401, and Irma recommended the Carolina Core integrative course for this function.
 - e. Integrative learning as coursework: Jeremy observed that for education majors, the curriculum requirements do not leave much room for electives, and suggested that 10% of the Key Student Behaviors should address out of classroom activities. John McDermott suggested infusing existing courses with out of classroom experiences.
 - f. Student participation in integrative learning: Several times the question arose as to whether or not all students should be required to participate in integrative learning. Bruce asked what the incentives are for students to participate. Students will ask what they have to do, how will that benefit them, and how will they be recognized for participating. Awarding certificates as recognition was proposed.
5. The Committee agreed to meet at the following times:
June 14th 1:30 -3:00
June 24th 9:30-11:00
6. Meeting adjourned at 12:35 p.m.