

# Victory University

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Belle S. Wheelan

Commission on Colleges

Southern Association of Colleges and Schools

1866 Southern Lane

Decatur, GA 30033

COMMISSION ON COLLEGES

**JUL 27 2011**

RECEIVED  
S.A.C.S.

Dear Dr. Wheelan,

The following is a **one-page** executive summary of Victory University's Quality Enhancement Program which includes the three elements requested: (1) the title of our QEP, (2) our institution's name, and (3) the name, title, and contact information of the QEP's director in regards to the program's details.

## Fulfilling the Promise: Enhancing Critical Thinking Skills among Students

Victory University's mission is to "educate students in a Christ-centered, liberal arts community to think critically, grow spiritually, and change our world." Based on a thorough review of data from standardized assessments, surveys of faculty, staff, and students, and focus group discussions, Victory University aptly adopted *Fulfilling the Promise: Enhancing Critical Thinking Skills Among Students* as a comprehensive plan to enhance the quality of student learning and provide a learning environment that encourages and supports critical thinking skills among students. The vision of *Fulfilling the Promise* is that Victory's graduates will engage in critical thinking as a habit of mind. It is anticipated that successful implementation of this quality will systematically cultivate excellence in thinking skills and apply those skills in academic, personal, and professional contexts. *Fulfilling the Promise* targets the implementation of innovative, intensive, and active learning experiences with an emphasis on (1) courses and

programs designed to teach students learning success skills, (2) key general education courses, and (3) key courses in each major field of study including capstone courses. The primary goals of *Fulfilling the Promise* are to: 1) enhance the meta-cognitive awareness of students in their own use of critical thinking skills in problem-solving; 2) improve students' application and use of critical thinking skills in learning strategies, general education, and in their major fields of study; and 3) enhance the learning environment to encourage and support the development of critical thinking skills among students through faculty and staff development. The foremost aim of the QEP is for students ultimately to develop and apply critical thinking as a self-directed, self-disciplined, self-monitored, and self-corrective process (Paul and Elder, 2009).

The contact for the QEP at Victory University is the director of the program, and chair of the Arts and Sciences department, Dr. Yolanda Harper; yharper@victory.edu.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Suzan R. Smith". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dr. Suzan R. Smith

Director, Institutional Effectiveness and Research

Victory University