

## Quantitative Reasoning: Preparing Leaders for a Changing World

Quality Enhancement Plan for Mary Baldwin  
University: Executive Summary

### Introduction

Mary Baldwin University's Quality Enhancement Plan focuses on quantitative reasoning. All students who graduate in our data-rich global era must have the capability to analyze, synthesize, and communicate knowledge in the context of real-world problems and choices.

For its QEP, Mary Baldwin adopted the Association of American Colleges and Universities (AAC&U) definition of Quantitative Reasoning, the essence of which is that individuals create "a habit of mind" in working with numerical data and in using quantitative evidence not only to solve problems but also to develop and communicate complex arguments.

### Goals and Learning Objectives

Mary Baldwin's QEP seeks to develop this "habit of mind" across the undergraduate curriculum and throughout the climate and visual culture of the University. As a result, the QEP has two overarching goals, which are outlined below. Each goal highlights the QEP's associated learning objectives.

Goal 1: To develop the capacity of Quantitative Reasoning across the undergraduate curriculum

- a) Graduates demonstrate Q competence (reasoning and literacy) in their abilities to represent and calculate numerical data and graphic information.
- b) Graduates demonstrate "habits of mind" and confidence in interpreting and communicating meaning from quantitative data.

Goal 2: To create an institutional climate and culture that promote quantitative reasoning.

- a) Create a Q Center as a resource for the entire university.
- b) Develop a Q-centered media environment through University communications that emphasizes use of informational graphics and data-based visuals.

### Assessment

Mary Baldwin will use a combination of methods and instruments for assessment to determine the success of its QEP. These measures are mapped to each outcome, as well as to criteria for success, method of collection, and responsibility. Assessment measures include, but are not limited to, course-embedded assessments for Q-designated classes, Q-specific questions on the senior survey, the QT Quantitative Reasoning Test or QLA Quantitative Literacy Assessment, and analysis from responses on the National Survey of Student Engagement and Academic Profile.

The Q Center Director and the Q Center Steering Committee will coordinate implementation of Mary Baldwin's QEP.

### For more information, please contact:

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