

Lindsey Writes

Quality Enhancement Plan for Lindsey Wilson College, Columbia, Kentucky

Executive Summary

After a year of discussion and dialog that included faculty, staff, students and the Board of Trustees, the Lindsey Wilson faculty, with full support of the administration and the Board, adopted a Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) that focuses on the improvement of writing. The initiative, *Lindsey Writes*, grew out of institutional effectiveness data, including English ACT scores, percent of students placed in developmental writing courses, class-embedded writing assessments and alumni surveys. *Lindsey Writes* enhances other initiatives at the College that impact writing, including general education revision and the work of the Writing Center.

Lindsey Writes, a writing across the curriculum program for undergraduate students at the College's Main Campus, includes three components: 1) the Writing in the Core Initiative, which focuses on writing to learn in core general education courses; 2) the Writing in the Disciplines Initiative, which focuses on developing writing skills specific to the student's major discipline; and 3) the Writing for Life Initiative, which incorporates writing focused activities and skills in the co-curriculum. *Lindsey Writes* train faculty in the use of writing to learn strategies and in techniques for teaching writing in their disciplines. A Writing Fellows program that assigns writing tutors/mentors to specific courses is also part of *Lindsey Writes*.

The three components of *Lindsey Writes* will support four specific student learning outcomes:

Students will

1. Write effectively in a broad range of disciplines and contexts.
2. Increase their level of perceived self-efficacy for writing.
3. Write effectively using the conventions, style and vocabulary of their major discipline.
4. Articulate and understand the elements of successful written communication in their major disciplines.

Lindsey Writes includes an assessment plan that uses multiple tools to measure progress in student learning outcomes and the effectiveness of the program. Assessment tools include the AAC&U Written Communication Rubric and the NSSE Experiences with Writing module. The College launched this high-impact educational program in January 2013. For additional information, contact Dr. Erin Wais-Hennen, *Lindsey Writes* Director (email, waise@lindsey.edu).