



Engage for Success

Ferrum College Quality Enhancement Plan

Ferrum, VA

Executive summary:

Ferrum College's Quality Enhancement Plan ("Engage for Success") is focused on the topic of "student engagement," which the committee has defined as, "the student body being involved in the diverse array of experiences in college life." The committee believes that when student engagement increases, key indicators of student success (retention, GPA, graduation rates, and student satisfaction) will also increase, as a result.

The plan, starting in Year 1 (2021 – 2022), has three main components. First, the QEP committee will lead a campus-wide push to motivate increased engagement; this effort will be shared by instructors, administrators, staff, student leadership, and coaches. Second, the QEP director will assess the results of these interventions on student engagement by measuring student involvement in six sub-categories: 1) athletic/physical engagement, 2) civic/community engagement, 3) cultural engagement, 4) intellectual engagement, 5) social engagement, and 6) spiritual engagement. The data for this assessment will be collected by anyone who organizes an event on campus (student groups, instructors, student engagement) through use of two student engagement applications: Presence and the You Attend widget in our learning management system. Finally, as these aspects of student engagement increase, the QEP director will assess their effect on measures of student success, specifically: 1) retention rate, 2) graduation rate, 3) overall student grade point average, and 4) student satisfaction.

The QEP committee has developed rubrics to assess some of the student learning outcomes, faculty/staff mini-grants, and some of our student success outcomes. They have additionally developed detailed assessment plans – one which is organized by student learning outcome (SLO); the other is organized by year. The QEP director will produce a year-end report which will highlight the successes and challenges of implementation and will communicate the results to relevant communities of faculty and staff in advance of the next school year.

QEP contact: Prof. Ed Hally, Director of the QEP, Associate Professor/Program Coordinator of Political Science, ehally@ferrum.edu