What Is a QEP?

“QEP” stands for Quality Enhancement Plan. The QEP is required by SACS and outlines a five-year program that we will implement to enhance learning for our students.
When Is the QEP due?

UNT Dallas’ QEP will be due to SACS in early Spring 2018 approximately six weeks before a SACS onsite committee visits our campus as part of our accreditation reaffirmation.

Why are we starting to talk about the QEP now?

The QEP development process is lengthy and recursive. SACS stipulates that all institutional constituents should have a hand in determining the QEP topic, so we’re beginning the conversation at this time.

Are we doing a QEP just because SACS requires one?

No, the QEP is an opportunity to coordinate and strengthen the educational experiences of UNT Dallas students. A QEP focuses on improving student learning in the future.
Detailed Definition of QEP

The QEP is a carefully designed course of action that focuses on a well defined topic or issue related to enhancing student learning. The plan should complement the institution’s ongoing academic planning and evaluation processes. The QEP should be designed on the basis of empirical data and a complete survey of the literature in the topic field.

Student learning may include changes in students’ knowledge, skills, behaviors, and/or values. The QEP should impact most of the students at the institution.
Examples of QEP Topic Areas

• Strengthening the core curriculum
• Developing new approaches to experiential learning
• Enhancing critical thinking skills
• Introducing innovative teaching and learning strategies
• Expanding the use of technology in the curriculum
Titles of Recent QEPs

Tarleton State University, Stephenville, Texas
   *Keeping it R.E.A.L.: Real-world Experiences Applied to Learning*

Texas A & M University – Corpus Christi, Corpus Christi, Texas
   *First-Year Islanders (FYI)*

Texas State University-San Marcos, San Marcos, Texas
   *Personalized Academic and Career Exploration (PACE): A Focus on Freshmen*

Thomas More College, Crestview Hills, Kentucky
   *Critical Thinking for Productive Living*

Tusculum College, Greeneville, Tennessee
   *Problem-Solving with Reflective Judgment*

The University of Louisiana at Lafayette, Lafayette, Louisiana
   *University-wide First-Year Seminar: The Cajun Connection*

University of North Carolina at Pembroke, Pembroke, North Carolina
   *Write to the Top: Enhancing Student Writing through a Writing Intensive Program*

University of North Texas Health Science Center at Ft. Worth, Fort Worth, Texas
   *Building Higher Order Thinking Skills in Tomorrow’s Health Care Professionals (the "HOT" plan)*

The University of Texas at San Antonio, San Antonio, Texas
   *Quantitative Scholarship: From Literacy to Mastery*
The QEP Document

The QEP document may not exceed one hundred pages, including a narrative of no more than seventy-five pages and appendices of no more than twenty-five pages.

Elements of the QEP document include the following:

• A topic that is vital to the long-term improvement of student learning
• Evidence that developing the QEP has engaged all appropriate constituents
• Specific and well-defined goals for student learning that will result in observable results
• Evidence of careful consideration of best practices related to the QEP topic
• An implementation plan that includes necessary resources, timelines, leadership, and assessment schedule

How will SACS evaluate our QEP?

• The institution identifies a critical issue related to student learning and justifies its use for a QEP
• The institution provides evidence that it has sufficient resources to implement, sustain, and complete the QEP
• The institution prepares an assessment plan that will demonstrate the success of the QEP
• The institution shows that all constituents have been involved in the QEP process
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<tr>
<th>Year/Period</th>
<th>Activity Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spring 2015</td>
<td>Gather QEP topic recommendations from faculty, staff, and students</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fall 2015</td>
<td>Evaluate QEP topic recommendations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spring 2016</td>
<td>Select QEP topic</td>
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<td>Fall 2016-Spring 2017</td>
<td>Research and write QEP proposal</td>
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<td>Fall 2017</td>
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<td>Feb. 2018</td>
<td>Submit QEP to SACS</td>
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<td>Mar.-Apr. 2018</td>
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