

QEP Minutes
September 19, 2005

Present:

Michelle Adkerson
Faye Jones
Linda Lyle
Ken Morlino
Robert Overall
Janusz Polanowski
Ellen Weed
Donna Whitehouse

1. Minutes from the last meeting were approved.
2. Next meeting is October 10 at 2:30.
3. The group decided to wait until examining the California Critical Thinking Skills Test (CCTST) before determining the key skills to emphasize in the QEP.
4. Faculty will be given the opportunity to take a paper/pencil version of CCTST. We will run the sessions by division and hope to get most faculty by the end of the semester. Donna will work with the Testing Center on this.
5. Donna will ask Institutional Research to randomly choose sections to take the California Critical Thinking Dispositions Inventory.
6. Faye handed out a partial annotated bibliography, as a sample of what the Best Practices part of the QEP report should look like. Once again, it was emphasized that the focus of the research should be on how to teach the skills. Both the implementation and faculty/student support committees stressed that practical information is what they need.
7. After much discussion, the group decided to investigate a professional development plan that called for critical thinking experts in specific academic fields to work with individual areas rather than a formal whole-group convocation.
8. It was suggested that the Faculty/Student Support group start work on a student orientation to critical thinking that would introduce students to the topic and provide a base for further instruction.
9. Faye sent the link to the article "Becoming a Critic of Your Thinking" to several learning strategies and reading faculty. If they find it useful, we may post some activities based on the article for other faculty to use on our web page.
10. Some campus education activities were discussed:
 - a. Monthly newsletter.
 - b. Web forum.
 - c. Critical Thinking Day