

Executive Summary

Somerset Community College's Quality Enhancement Plan is entitled PASS It On! The QEP is focused on assisting learners in the development and application of critical thinking skills across the curriculum, thereby improving their ability to think critically and solve problems in general education and occupational/technical programs. The topic was selected based on broad-based input across the SCC community.

The implementation of the QEP will include rigorous faculty development activities, involving teams of SCC faculty and non-instructional staff in acquiring new knowledge and skills about teaching critical thinking. The application of critical thinking skills will be integrated throughout the curriculum over the five-year period. Students will learn to apply critical thinking skills across the learning environment, resulting in measurable improvements in learning as critical thinkers and in course content.

The success of the QEP will be based on the assessment of the following objectives and related outcomes:

Objective 1: SCC will foster a broad culture of critical thinking involving the entire college community.

Objective 2: Faculty will develop pedagogical skills and expertise in critical thinking and problem solving.

Objective 3: Critical thinking and problem-solving instruction will be integrated throughout the curriculum.

Objective 4: Students will think critically and improve learning in targeted courses.

SCC has committed resources of faculty, academic leadership, and financial support to the implementation of the QEP and is invested in the success of the activities and outcomes. QEP objectives and outcomes are based on the 2006-2010 Strategic Plan, moving the college toward becoming a learning-centered institution.

Implementation of the QEP is the responsibility of the following individuals:

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