

***It's in the Book!***

San Jacinto Community College

Executive Summary

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The San Jacinto College Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) focuses on using course texts to improve student learning and energize teaching. These “texts” can include books, manuals, web pages, and any other instructional material faculty have adopted for their courses. The goal is to help students use course texts more effectively to develop “discipline fluency,” which QEP faculty have defined as the essential vocabulary, concepts, and applications students need to be successful in academic and technical disciplines.

The plan develops a multi-discipline Faculty Inquiry Group (FIG) to explore instructional strategies, theories of learning, and assessment processes that encourage improvements in student, as well as faculty, behaviors, skills, and values. FIG participants collect and study traditional student-success data and explore inquiry-based research to develop new ways of understanding student progress. The plan provides professional development through sustained collaboration focused on faculty observation and reflection, discussions of assessment, and educational research. The plan also develops partnerships with many areas of the college, including student life, instructional design, institutional research, the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, college libraries, instructional technology, and marketing.

By promoting faculty collaboration, strengthening assessment, identifying roadblocks to student learning, and improving instructional strategies, the plan enriches the San Jacinto College culture of teaching and learning.