

# QEP Newsletter

*Transparent Instruction in General Education and Gateway Courses for Student Success*

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## **It's Official:**

Lincoln Memorial University's 2019 – 2024 Quality Enhancement Plan, "Transparent Instruction in General Education and Gateway Courses for Student Success" was presented to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) On-Site Reaffirmation Committee in March 2019. During its meeting in June 2019, the SACSCOC Board of Trustees "reaffirmed accreditation" and further stated "no additional report was requested".

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## **Congratulations & Thank You**

A special note of appreciation to the QEP Steering Committee for their hard work researching, creating, and presenting the QEP:

Joshua Boone, Ph.D., Mathematics and Sciences  
Karen Carter, Ph.D., Business  
Kevin Cooper, Ph.D., Mathematics and Sciences  
Amiel Jarstfer, Ph.D., Academic Affairs  
Nikki Lockhart, MBA, Public Relations and Marketing  
Joanna Neilson, Ph.D., Arts, Humanities, & Social Sciences  
Alexander Parks, Ph.D., Education  
Kala Perkins-Holtsclaw, Ed.D., Institutional Research and Effectiveness  
Adam Rollins, Ph.D., Mathematics and Sciences  
Martin Sellers, Ph.D., Arts, Humanities, & Social Sciences  
Sandra Southern, M.S., Allied Health Sciences  
Sandra Weems, Ph.D. Arts, Humanities, & Social Sciences  
Robin Wilson, Ed.D., Nursing  
Travis Wright, Ph.D., Academic and Student Support Services  
Elizabeth Yagodzinski, Ph.D., Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence

## **Additional faculty that helped lead Spring Faculty Training Sessions:**

Chessica Cave, Ed.D., Education  
Erika Eschberger, MLIS, Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence  
Ashleigh Thomas, Ph.D., Mathematics and Sciences

## Meet the QEP Director

Dr. Molly Duggan was hired to implement and analyze the new QEP. She has experience with faculty development, assessment, and quantitative research. If you have questions about how to transform an assignment to reflect transparent instruction, you can reach her at [Molly.Duggan@LMU.net](mailto:Molly.Duggan@LMU.net). Her office is located in Business/Education Bldg. 232.



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## By The Numbers . . .

2,158	Student surveys returned in spring 2019 for baseline data
200	Course sections sent student surveys
91	Faculty participated in training sessions
11	Faculty and staff leading training sessions
5	Cohorts of faculty in training sessions
3.32	Average baseline rubric score based on students' review of course assignments prior to QEP implementation (out of 4.0)
2	Number of assignments that should be modified in each general education and gateway course to reflect transparent instruction

## Up-Coming Training Available

- New Faculty/Staff Orientation Week for New Faculty – Thursday, August 8, 9 am – 12 noon
- Faculty/Staff Conference Week – two information sessions
  - Monday, August 12, 8 am – 9:30 am & Tuesday August 13, 1 pm – 2:30 pm
- Support Sessions – 4 Drop-In Assistance Sessions – Bring Documents – BE 213 – 4:30 pm – 6:30 pm
  - Monday, August 12; Tuesday, August 13; Monday, August 19; Wednesday, August 21

**PURPOSE ~ TASKS ~ CRITERIA**



## Important 2019 Dates

August 19 – Classes Start

August 19 - Course Syllabi should be uploaded to Academic Affairs Bulletin Board

August 19 – 30 – “Pre” Student surveys should be completed in Classes

*\*Online classes - surveys are in Blackboard – students must complete them prior to Unit 2*

September 2 – Transparent Assignments should be uploaded to Academic Affairs Bulletin Board

November 18 – December 6 – “Post” Student surveys should be completed in Classes

*\*Online classes – surveys are in Blackboard – students must complete them prior to last Unit*

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## QEP Research Question:

How can we help our students finish what they start and feel more confident as they work toward their goals?

## Student Success Goal 1:

Implementation of the QEP will improve student success in General Education and Gateway courses by offering more transparent instruction and more transparent syllabi.

## Student Success Goal 2:

Implementation of the QEP will improve student success by increasing students’ overall sense of belonging to the general learning community at Lincoln Memorial University.

## Faculty Training and Development Outcome:

Implementation of the QEP will increase student success through faculty training and development on improving course assignments, instructions, and syllabi by learning how to offer Transparent Instruction. Training faculty who teach Gen-Ed and Gateway courses to implement Transparent Instruction in these courses will be the primary activity of this QEP.

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## Looking for Volunteers

As part of our QEP assessment process, we will have students and faculty review transparent assignments and syllabi using a standardized rubric. This will involve few meetings and most review of documents can be done electronically. We are looking for faculty from across campus so that we have a diverse review team. If you are interested in volunteering to do this, please send an email to [Molly.Duggan@LMU.net](mailto:Molly.Duggan@LMU.net).



*Thank you for reading our first newsletter. If there is something you would like added, please email [Molly.Duggan@LMU.net](mailto:Molly.Duggan@LMU.net).*