

QEP Survey Summary

Victoria A. Farrar-Myers

A total of 143 faculty members completed surveys. Due to a programming error early in the survey process, other topics that faculty members offered for consideration for the QEP were added to the selection list. For a period of several days, faculty members were then able to rank order those topics in addition to the set of seven pre-selected topics. Eighteen faculty members did include these additional topics in their rank ordering. Taking this occurrence into account, the data were adjusted; the references to the other variables were eliminated and the remaining rankings were re-ordered according to their position within the seven pre-selected topics. The data presented herein include both raw data and adjusted data. The substantive conclusions, however, do not change between the raw and adjusted data.

The attached survey summary spreadsheets start with the frequency distribution and other summary statistics for each of the seven pre-selected topics. From there, the seven topics are ranked ordered in five different ways: (1) the total number of respondents who ranked that topic in their survey (regardless of position); (2) mean; (3) respondents who identified a topic as their first choice; (4) respondents who identified a topic within their first three choices; and (5) a weighted score giving seven points for a Number 1 ranking; six points for a Number 2 ranking, etc. These five rankings were then averaged to create an Overall Average Rank. The final order of the seven categories in the Overall Average Ranking is:

1. Communication Skills
2. Applied Learning
3. Student Engagement
4. Undergraduate Research
5. Internationalization
6. Civic Engagement
7. FIGs.

The top four were close enough to warrant continued consideration.

In addition to the pre-selected categories, faculty members could suggest alternative topics. We receive a total of 27 other topics for consideration, although they could be grouped and summarized as follows:

1. *Pedagogy* (8): Suggested topics include creative learning, combining undergraduate research and FIGs, helping students to challenge themselves, integrative learning, active learning and student engagement, simulations, mentoring, and student interaction.
2. *Leadership and Citizenship* (4): Suggested topics include leadership, creating citizen-scholars, and developing an informed citizenship.
3. *Faculty Needs* (4): Suggested topics include increasing research faculty, funding research, faculty salaries, and other faculty needs.

4. *Communication* (3): Suggested topics include literacy, adding a computer-based dimension to a student's communication skills, and information literacy/competency.
5. *Technology* (3): Suggested topics include enhancing online web content, web-based resources, and use of technology in the classroom.
6. *Miscellaneous* (5): Suggested topics include remediation, diversity, enhanced visibility and excellence, competency requirements, and graduate research.

The attached spreadsheet entitled "Additional Topics Suggested by Faculty" provides more detail regarding these proposals.