

Process

MSCC's QEP evolved and developed through an institutionally inclusive approach that engaged faculty, administrators, staff, students, and community stakeholders. The process to cultivate MSCC's second QEP began when the SACSCOC Leadership Team facilitated a series of presentations and discussions for faculty, staff, and students in spring 2016 at each of the College's campuses. These sessions provided opportunities to share data collected by the Director of Institutional Research and the Academic Assessment Specialist (now one position titled Director of Institutional Effectiveness and Assessment) that demonstrated areas in which the College could improve student learning and, therefore, improve student retention, progression to benchmarks, and graduation rates. Following the presentations, the SACSCOC Leadership Team disseminated a QEP topic survey with six broad categories for improvement (including advisement, First Year Experience, remedial/developmental education, student persistence, collaboration, and technology) to enable constituent commitment to the process and provide guidance to the QEP Steering Committee, a faculty-driven committee with representation from each College unit, students, alumni, and the community. Prior to the first QEP Committee meeting, the QEP Committee Chair reviewed the MSCC Mission Statement and 2015-2025 Strategic Plan to ensure that the forthcoming MSCC QEP aligns with both guiding documents. The MSCC Mission Statement specifically addresses critical thinking: "Motlow State encourages student success through critical thinking, clear communication, ethical behavior, respect for others, civic responsibility, problem solving, effective functioning in individual and team situations, and an appreciation of one's own heritage as well as that of others." In addition, through ETS Proficiency Profile assessment of critical thinking and identified CCSSE questions that measure students' perceptions of critical thinking, a critical thinking topic that expressly aligns with 3.1.1 of the 2015-2025 MSCC Strategic Plan: "The institution will annually exceed the comparative or college peer group scores for academic success measure including exit exams, major field tests, and licensure exams." The QEP Committee began meetings in September 2016 and has worked continually since that time to develop a data-informed QEP, review appropriate Student Learning Outcomes and assessments, evaluate supporting literature, consider faculty development opportunities, and assess the integration of student support services. The Committee's work culminated in a critical thinking QEP called QUEST (Question, Use, Evaluate, Solve, Test): Critical Thinking in the First Year Experience.

For further information on Motlow State's Quality Enhancement Plan, please contact: Meagan McManus, QEP Committee Chair, mmcmanus@mscc.edu or Dr. Scott Cook, Vice President of Quality Assurance and Performance Funding, scook@mscc.edu