



Faculty News!

The University recently partnered with the Association of College and University Educators (ACUE) to provide training that focuses on teaching practices and active learning strategies for faculty teaching online courses. The Promoting Active Learning Online Module will be especially helpful for faculty teaching courses with an EL component.

What other opportunities or training would you like to have that will assist you with providing EL opportunities to students?

What support do you need?

It's Christmas time...what would be on your wish list?

Email your list to katia.maxwell@athens.edu



What has been done? Where are we now? Where are we going? An Update on the QEP

Through the drive and commitment of the QEP Leadership Team and the participation of faculty, staff, and students, we have made great progress on the University's next QEP! This year, the University has:

- Identified five different categories associated to Experiential Learning.
- Adopted a definition of Experiential Learning at Athens State University.
- Conducted an extensive literature review regarding EL best practices through a variety of Focus Group activities.
- Joined the National Society of Experiential Education.
- Reviewed all degree programs and found that each program included at least one class with an experiential learning component.
- Designated a new Office of Community and Corporate Engagement that will play an important role in providing a central location for community, corporate, and Athens State constituents to learn more about Experiential Learning opportunities.
- Adopted the tag line "Experience | Success".
- Conducted a QEP logo contest. Entries were submitted by faculty and students and a final design is coming soon.
- Formed a QEP subcommittee to create a website for the QEP to provide a public presence (you can still access everything on Blackboard, but only university constituents have that access).
- Administered over 100 surveys to students in Fall 2020 to assess EL activities in targeted courses.

Where do we go from here?

- If you are teaching a class in Spring 2021 that will have an embedded EL activity and are interested in participating in the QEP assessment, please contact katia.maxwell@athens.edu. Survey instruments are available and the data is incredibly helpful.
- Conversations are ongoing with the College Deans to create a way to designate courses that include an EL component as "EL" courses. This designation will assist with future faculty workload decisions and with tracking of EL activities across the University.
- Conversations are taking place with the Honors Program Steering Committee to determine how the QEP can provide assistance in establishing such program.
- A software package, Collaboratory, has been purchased to assist in the tracking of community engagement conducted both within and outside of the classroom (i.e. student organizations).
- The QEP Leadership Team wants to provide as many resources as possible to faculty members that are currently incorporating Experiential Learning into their classes or are interested in doing so in the future.