

WE NEED TO HEAR FROM YOU!

We are looking for examples of Experiential Learning activities that professors are incorporating into their classes.

Please send a brief summary and a couple of pictures to katia.maxwell@athens.edu to have your experience highlighted in the newsletter!

BLACKBOARD

Please take a moment to visit the NEW QEP organization in Bb and catch up on some of the Focus Group feedback from the literature review. Just visit each Focus Group's thread to see why they had to share.

FALL SEMESTER PILOTS

Three courses will be piloting QEP assessment activities this Fall Semester.

- Dr. Kim Roberts, MG 390 Operations Management, through hands-on learning
- Dr. Mark Gale, CE 465 Instructional Design Capstone, through workplace-based learning;
- Prof. Katia Maxwell, CS/ITE 452, Senior Software Engineering Project, through community-based learning.

Assessments will be measuring the new QEP student outcomes. Stay tuned for updates!



SWEET TREATS, GAMES, & OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT

The Color Run fundraiser for dyslexia awareness orchestrated by Dr. Kerner's marketing class demonstrates **community-based learning**. The Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program sponsored by Drs. Miller and Owen shows us **learning through expeditions**. We see **learning through research** with Dr. Cline's molecular biology courses. Last month, Dr. Breaux shared insights on **workplace learning** through application of an internship in the Writing Center. This month Dr. Kim Roberts shares a couple of examples of **hands-on learning**.

Students in Operations Management are introduced to Six Sigma – a set of techniques and tools for process improvement. Rather than just reading about Six Sigma, students actually go through each phase of a Six Sigma project as the Ops Manager of an M&M production facility. Students begin by creating a flow chart of the M&M production process. Bags of M&Ms are brought in and students identify and count defects, analyze the data, brainstorm causes of defects, and come up with improvements to implement.

This fall, Operations Management students will be utilizing a simulator through McGraw-Hill Connect called Practice Operations. Practice Operations puts players in the role of an operations decision maker for a clothing manufacturing company. Play begins with an overview of the heart of that engine – managing the production process. Players review the contract specifications as well as the production process by walking through the production floor and shipping area. Players then analyze the receiving department functions of managing the supply chain and material inventories to ensure client needs can be met. Students are assessed on their ability to complete contracts on time, while also managing their quality reputation and net worth. Game-based learning is a way to engage students with the material, let them make critical decisions, and then see the consequences of those decisions.

Best of all, we get to eat the M&Ms product when we're done! -Dr. Roberts





Looking for YOUR Creativity – Searching for our Logo

WE NEED YOU!!

The QEP Leadership team is asking all faculty, staff and students to participate in the opportunity to design a LOGO that will be used for our QEP marketing.

All qualifying submitted entries will be entered into a prize drawing!

What qualifies your design?

1. **Must incorporate Athens State University**
2. **Must tie in all five identified experiential learning categories**
3. **Must incorporate the tag line “Experience | Success”**
4. **Do not include any identifiable information to yourself as part of the logo**

Your submission should be sent to:

katia.maxwell@athens.edu

Please be sure that you include a paragraph explanation of your logo.

Submissions will be accepted through Friday, September 18th at 5:00pm.

Five EL Categories @ Athens State

Workplace Learning – this includes students participating in internships or having the opportunity to job shadow someone in a position that they have interest in making their own career.

Learning through Research – this includes students partnering with faculty members to conduct research in topics that are relevant to the community and/or discipline.

Hands-On Learning – the classes that incorporate hands-on projects come in many different forms.

Learning through Expeditions – this includes students being able to get out of the classroom and apply their skills and knowledge through activities that may occur during trips that are taken, whether local, national, or international.

Community-Based Learning – this includes classes that partner to work in collaboration with a non-profit community sponsor. This type of learning also occurs outside of the classroom through special groups, such as the Student Government Association, and other student organizations and programs, such as the Peer Mentoring program.

Additional information on all of these categories can be found in Blackboard under the New QEP Organization and then by clicking on the link “EL @ Athens State”.

Five Key Considerations in Planning EL Activities:

Obscure Challenges to Consider

Recognize that you/they will be triggered – Be prepared for the fact that some students are developmentally ready for this experience and others are not.

Remember that learning can be messy – You are giving up control in some regards and learning with students in real time.

Communicate and gain support – Because of things like the above, student evaluations can drop. Communicate with your department chair and dean so they understand the purpose and objective of your activities.

Tap partners – Working with other faculty members can provide another set of eyes and help with meaning making.

Allow time at the end – It seems like the end of the semester arrives before we know it and we are rushed for time at the end. Allow time for real-time coaching, critical reflection, and debriefing.

Allen, S.J. (2018). Yes! And...I’m so tired of experiential learning. *Journal of Management Education*, 42(2), 306-312.

Our QEP Leadership Team

Ms. Mary Aquila, Library Faculty
 Ms. Kim Bell, COB Faculty
 Ms. Lauren Blackledge, Public Relations
 Dr. Chet Breaux, Writing Center
 Ms. Carolyn Carthen, Veteran’s Affairs
 Dr. Bridgette Walker, COE Faculty
 Ms. Juliana Hunt, Accessibility Services
 Mr. Tim Crafton, IT
 Ms. Helen Crider, Wallace Center
 Ms. Barbara Ferguson, Financial Affairs
 Dr. Mark Gale, COE Faculty
 Mr. Jeffrey Guenther, Institutional Research
 Dr. Diann Hammon, COB Faculty
 Ms. Laura Lynn Kerner, COB Faculty
 Ms. Chelsea Love, Advancement Office

Ms. Katia Maxwell, COAS Faculty
 Ms. Elizabeth Mead, Student
 Mr. Aron Moss, Student
 Ms. Savannah Pearson, Testing Center
 Dr. Shannon Pittman, COAS Faculty
 Dr. Michael Radden, Career Development Center
 Dr. Kim Roberts, COB Faculty
 Mr. Derrek Smith, Student Success Center
 Dr. Jackie Smith, Accreditation Liaison
 Ms. Brittany Stanley, Alumni
 Dr. Quanda Stevenson, COAS Faculty
 Dr. Darlene Turner-White, COE Faculty
 Ms. Debbie Wilson, COE Certification Office
 Mr. Nick Agrawal, COAS Faculty