

# The QEP Chronicles



ALL ABOUT WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH THE QEP. Spring 2017: Issue 3.

## Year 1 is Wrapping Up!

### What is the QEP and why is it important?

First and foremost, the QEP (quality enhancement plan) is a 5-year plan that is implemented into the institution in order to enhance the quality of higher education and ensure that student learning is our number one priority. The QEP committee and GMC faculty, staff, and administration want our students to succeed at GMC and beyond. The quality enhancement plan is one method for working towards this goal.

The QEP is a SACSCOC core requirement that provides a framework for successful implementation of GMC's plan to enhance the higher education delivered to our students.

### What is the GMC QEP timeline?

- Implement our QEP: Year 1 began October 2016 – Year 5 will end May 2021.
- Complete QEP 5th Year Impact Report: Summer 2021.



### Let's talk about Metacognition.....

It means to think about how you think, and analyze what you're doing!! It's important to be aware of metacognition and implement it into the classroom. This allows students to apply their metacognitive skills outside of the class when they are studying the material and preparing for exams. Dr. Saundra McGuire gives more insight in this brief video – [CLICK HERE](#) to view it.



### WHERE CAN I READ MORE ABOUT THE QEP?

Please visit the QEP webpage on the GMC website! Click on the red link below or copy and paste into a browser.  
<http://www.gmc.edu/about-gmc/qep.cms>

## What is the QEP topic?

## Faculty Training Plan

### CRITICAL THINKING

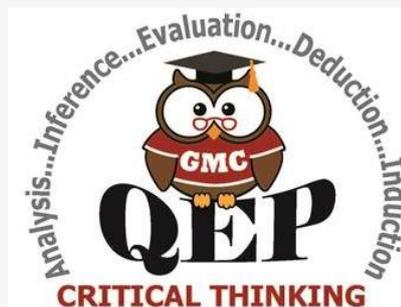


Critical Thinking is defined by GMC's QEP committee as an active, self-reflective, and deliberate attempt to utilize cognitive skills to support decision making, problem solving, or mastery of concepts throughout various contexts. Research shows that deliberate training in multiple courses based on a standardized definition of critical thinking can improve students' critical thinking skills.

That defines our QEP very well!

The faculty will be undergoing the following professional development for the QEP initiative:

1. Completion of an online training course in Moodle.
2. 90-minute breakout sessions at the faculty workshops.
3. Dr. Sandra McGuire's metacognition workshop.



## Get Ready for our Guest Speaker at the spring Faculty Workshop: Dr. Sandra McGuire!

Dr. Sandra Yancy McGuire is the Director Emerita of the Center for Academic Success at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana where she formerly held the positions of Assistant Vice Chancellor and Professor of Chemistry. Prior to joining LSU in August 1999, she spent eleven years at Cornell University, where she received the coveted Clark Distinguished Teaching Award. Dr. McGuire has been teaching chemistry, working in the area of learning and teaching support, and mentoring students for over 40 years. She has delivered keynote addresses or presented her widely acclaimed student success and faculty development workshops at over 200 institutions in 41 states and six countries. Additionally, she has published her work in *The Journal of Chemical Education*, *American Scientist*, *Science*, *The Learning Assistance Review*, *To Improve the Academy*, and *New Directions for Teaching and Learning*. Her latest book, *Teach Students How to Learn: Strategies You Can Incorporate into Any Course to Improve Student Metacognition, Study Skills, and Motivation*.



## What is happening with the QEP now?

The CT Experts (faculty trainers) have completed their professional development and are developing training plans for the GMC faculty, which will begin this spring. Dr. Sandra McGuire will be a guest speaker at the upcoming spring Faculty Workshop where she will be discussing metacognition for GMC students and implementing that into the classroom.

More SWAG and marketing materials will be ordered this summer for fall school year kick-off parties – plan for those in August and September on your campus!

The revised PER 101 course and new PER 201 course are currently under development for their launching in August.

## WHO DO I CONTACT ABOUT THE QEP?

Jessy Bahn: Chair, QEP Committee

[jbahn@gmc.edu](mailto:jbahn@gmc.edu)