

QEP Development Team Meeting – 4/11/2023

In attendance:

Nicole Donawho
Bill Horstman
Kirk Lee
Nicolas (Nick) Valcik
James Wicks
Rebecca Burton

Those present agreed that the purpose of this QEP will be to address Collin's first year experience initiatives and to address outcome inequities of minority and/or marginalized students. These are considered distinct, but intertwined topics.

Areas of investigation include...

FYE conceptualization

What does a good first year experience look like? Some features talked about in the meeting include academic performance, but also major selection, preparedness for entering second year and beyond, and awareness/use of important campus resources. Team members will review the literature to see what other institutions are doing to create a robust first year experience.

Data/Variables

It will be important to explore what student data we do and do not have. For example, we do not currently capture students' first-generation status, whether they qualify for free or reduced-cost lunches, or whether they have requested ACCESS accommodations. With what data we have, we'll need to show areas of improvement/outcome disparities for FTIC students, as well as students stratified along various other criteria.

Student surveys will likely play a key role in how we measure FYE initiatives. Be mindful of research design along with survey (or any measurement instrument) integrity and distribution. A review of the literature and peer institution QEPs will provide insight.

Will need to consider variables for student success that are more holistic and need to be clearly defined for assessment purposes. A review of the literature will provide insight.

What can workday accommodate in terms of tracking student engagement with campus resources?

First-year course

Explore the possibility of having a required first-year/first-term course or seminar. Can EDUC 1300 be used for this? What would that look like scaled to the entire district? How practical is this for Collin?

Student orientation

Currently, students who attend in-person orientation are asked to complete a survey. Students who complete the online orientation are not prompted to complete a survey. Consider making survey completion a required element of any orientation program.

Miscellaneous

What technological solutions might there be to improve students' first year experience? Some examples include ease of setting up One Login, and accessing/using Canvas or Cougarweb.

How is student success impacted by open educational resources (OERs) or early-first day access for course material?

The meeting concluded with the following team assignments:

Kirk Lee and Nicole Donawho – review the literature for examples of good first year experience initiatives. I.e. what does a good first year experience look like?

James Wicks and Bill Horstman – Review institutional data and current FTIC survey instruments. What are we capturing, and what can that tell us about Collin's current FYE initiatives?

Nicolas Valcik – Review QEPs at peer institutions and get the Student Success Survey for reference.

Rebecca Burton – Examine scalability of EDUC 1300 as a district-wide first year seminar course. What would it look like if EDUC 1300 was required for FTIC students?