

Proposed Quality Enhancement Plan Focus Topic

Proposal due date: Monday, November 15, 2004

Submit electronically to dgoforth@loyno.edu

Or, if you prefer, submit a paper copy to David Estes, 242 Marquette, Box 7

View proposed topics at the QEP Web site—<http://www.loyno.edu/sacs/qep/>

Title and brief description of QEP topic: Changing Minds: A Transformative Liberal Education. This proposal targets the core educational mission of Loyola as a Jesuit university in a changing world, and specifically the transformative character of a liberal education in the Jesuit tradition. The core curriculum should be organized around four critical transformations: (1) from information consumers to critical thinkers, (2) from passive learners to engaged learners, (3) from local citizens to global citizens, and (4) from autonomous selves to men and women for others.

Proposal submitted by [optional]: .Thomas Smith

Brief explanation of how the topic is “creative and vital to the long-term improvement of student learning” at Loyola: This model is creative in that curriculum will be designed from standpoint of desired outcomes that implicate not only mastery of skills and knowledge, but of a more comprehensively conceived "metanoia" that implicates the whole person.

Evidence (or potential sources of evidence) suggesting the need to address this topic [optional]: Models of core education that connect knowledge with life (experiential learning, service learning), that make connections between disciplines (interdisciplinarity), and that stress the collaborative and communitarian approach to learning have been shown to produce enhanced learning. Further, globalization and internationalization of curriculum have been prominently featured as the next task of higher education. At Loyola, the Common Curriculum as currently structured does not evidence an overarching structure or strategy keyed to student learning, nor is the university's mission prominent in the core educational experience, except for the presence of substantial hour requirements in Religious Studies and Philosophy.

Current and planned activities at Loyola related to this topic [optional]: