

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: **Fostering Global Citizenship from a Jesuit Perspective**

To become an effective citizen of the world, one must first become an effective citizen at home. Learning to truly appreciate the world view of others goes far beyond mere tolerance, and requires inquiry, examination and immersion into the historical, philosophical, and cultural perspectives of the panoply of diversity among people and traditions found at home and abroad. This QEP proposal seeks to focus and ground this inquiry and examination within the context and ideals of Jesuit higher education including, but not limited to, linking faith with justice, special concern for the poor and oppressed, commitment to service, and learning from experience. As contemplatives in action, the campus would have the opportunity to have access to the City of New Orleans and the surrounding region, unique in its history, location and development, and to fully utilize its cultural and educational resources.

Proposal submitted by [optional]: The Division of Student Affairs

Brief explanation of how the topic is “creative and vital to the long-term improvement of student learning” at Loyola: To designate "The City as a Classroom" creates a host of unique learning environments and learning communities for students throughout the spectrum of the curriculum and allows students to put theory into practice. This creates an ideal environment in which Academic Affairs and Students Affairs can work together in creative partnership to build a seamless learning environment inside and outside the classroom. This can also create a focus for Business Affairs and Institutional Advancement to open new doors in grant writing, foundation giving and other partnerships that, in turn, may result in strengthening all of the university's programs.

Evidence (or potential sources of evidence) suggesting the need to address this topic [optional]: A cursory look at local, national and international events strongly suggests that a polarizing dualistic world view is the prevailing trend. (e.g. "red states v. blue states", "our values v. their values") By uniting in our commitment to engage in experiences and utilize pedagogies that foster critical thinking, reflection, civil discourse and personal integrity, without rancor, we can help to set in motion within the individual, a life-long commitment to learning through inquiry, thoughtful examination and reflection.

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

- 1. Cultural immersion/study abroad opportunities: locally, nationally and internationally**
- 2. Service learning programs involving the local community and beyond**
- 3. "Global perspectives" addressed throughout the curriculum and in co-curricular venues**
- 4. Student leadership training programs and retreats**
- 5. Hosting of international conference and study abroad programs**
- 6. Increased focus on the mechanisms and skill development necessary in cultivating civil discourse such as : critical thinking, clarity in the written and spoken word, listening skills, confrontation skills and ethics**
- 7. Greater knowledge and utilization of Jesuit pedagogies**
- 8. Suitable for potential tie-ins to Freshman Year Experience programs and activities**
- 9. Model UN programs**