The Write News
SSU FACULTY & STAFF
ONLINE NEWSLETTER

2013-2014 QEP RESULTS at a glance

Writing Resources for Faculty and Staff

QEP is accepting applications for the next Faculty Development Seminar and Faculty Writing Fellow Program. Apply Now!

and much more inside!
The Write News

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ONLINE NEWSLETTER
Spring 2014/Issue 2

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We kindly thank our community partners and our Lunch & Learn Series presenters
Become a Faculty Writing Fellow and help our students improve their writing skills at the SSU Writing Center

What is a Faculty Writing Fellow?
Faculty Writing Fellows (FWFs) are faculty members that log hours at the SSU Writing Center to assist students with their writing (a minimum of 75 hours for the term).

What does a FWF do?
FWFs primarily work with students in their disciplinary area of expertise, but are available to help any student in need.

FWFs conduct research on best practices in pedagogy and writing instruction in their discipline, and deliver one QEP Faculty Development Workshop to share their findings.

What are the Requirements?
This is a paid position. In order to be considered, you must be recommended by your department chair or dean.

How do I apply?
Click here.

If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Lisa Yount at yountL@savannahstate.edu or 358-3328

Thank you!
We would like to sincerely thank our 2013-2014 FWFs for their dedication to helping our students improve their attitudes about writing.

Dr. Adegboye Adegemo
COST, Chemistry

Professor Sandra Earley
CLASS, Mass Communications

Dr. Mir Hayder
COST, Engineering

Dr. Dustin Michael
CLASS, English

Professor Marlene Seidman
CLASS, Fine Arts

Professor Maliece Whatley
COBA, Accounting

QEP
www.qep.savannahstate.edu

SSU Writing Center
www.savannahstate.edu/class/writing-center/
FOR YOUR ACTION

QEP is accepting applications for the next Faculty Development Seminar. Have you applied yet?

Applications are due Friday, May 16, 2014.

Six participants representing various academic units on campus will be selected.

“*The Write Attitude*” Faculty Development Seminar is an 8-week instructional program led by Dr. Lisa Yount. It is designed to teach the best practices in pedagogy and writing instruction across the curriculum.

Candidates are chosen based on their support of QEP initiatives and willingness to enhance student learning through writing.

Participants participate in surveys, implement additional writing in their classrooms, give a brief presentation on their teaching experiences, and assess activities over three semesters.

Along with the skills and pedagogical knowledge afforded by the seminar, participants also receive an honorarium for their efforts.

Areas covered during this seminar include:

- How to motivate students’ critical thinking and knowledge comprehension through writing
- How to design effective writing assignments for your particular course/discipline
- High- and low-stakes writing. Which is best for certain assignments and skill attainment?
- How to give student feedback that balances content with correctness
- Creating assignment instructions that enable students to grasp what it is you want from them
- Productive peer review
- How to manage the grading load efficiently and effectively

If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Lisa Yount at yountL@savannahstate.edu or 358-3328
Dr. Katherine Stewart  
CLASS, Social & Behavioral Sciences  
“First, I want to say that I thoroughly enjoyed the experience and wish I had completed such a workshop as early as my second year working as a new faculty member. While the text and materials used in the workshop are great, the best part for me was the discussion. […] Hearing suggestions/examples of how others address [the] same issues was enlightening.  
[Dr. Yount] as a facilitator is much more than just a fountain of knowledge. The delivery of the material was like an invitation to change, grow, and critique one’s professional performance. The invitation was a challenge and a learning experience rather than a threat or criticism. I have more revisions in mind and the tools/resources to develop better assignments.”

Dr. Suman Niranjan  
COBA, Operations Management  
“Teaching writing in a quantitative class is a challenge. But I learnt that it can be done. I felt that the learning process from faculty members of other disciplines was the best part of the seminar.”

Professor Nicholas Silberg  
CLASS, Fine Arts  
“Since I am a Program Coordinator, these skills will be helpful in creating meaningful assessment tools for writing throughout the Fine Arts program.”

Professor Linda Samuel  
CLASS, Social Work  
“This was a very rewarding experience for me that I know will enhance my teaching and hopefully provide a better learning experience for my students. This seminar should be mandatory the second year for all junior faculty.”

Professor Teresa-Michelle Walker  
CLASS, Theater  
“I learned a lot that I will apply to my courses. I want to develop my rubrics and assignments to consider the issues that were discussed in the course. This way my students will have clear understandings.”
# FOR YOUR INFORMATION

## 2013-2014 QEP RESULTS at a glance

### Grammar Extravaganza Workshops
- Total Workshops: 29
- Total Hours: 48
- Instances of Participation: 338

### Essay Writing Workshops
- Total Workshops: 30
- Total Hours: 50
- Instances of Participation: 451

### QEP Student Surveys
- Total Surveying Sessions: 247
- Total Surveys Completed: 5,300

### Senior Student Focus Groups
- Total Focus Groups: 10
- Total Hours: 10
- Total Participants: 96

### Student Writing Contests
- Total Contests: 11
- Total Winners: 39

### Lunch and Learn Series
- Total Events: 7
- Total Hours: 10.5
- Instances of Participation: 198

### On-Campus Writing Events for Students
- Total Events: 43
- Total Hours: 76.5
- Instances of Participation: 2,073

### Off-Campus Writing Events for Students
- Total Events: 2
- Total Hours: 4
- Total Participants: 36
2013-2014 QEP RESULTS at a glance

**Faculty Development Workshops**
- Total Workshops: 7
- Total Hours: 10.5
- Instances of Participation: 43

**Faculty Development Seminar**
- Total Hours: 108
- Total Participants: 6

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**2013-2014 QEP GRAND TOTAL**
- QEP Activities: 987
- Hours of QEP Activities: 1,280
- Hours of Student participation and involvement in any QEP activity, project, program, or event: 970.75
- Hours of Faculty & Staff participation and involvement in any QEP activity, project, program, or event: 1,081
- Instances of Students participating and getting involved in any QEP activity, project, program, or event: 9,123
- Instances of Faculty & Staff members participating and getting involved in any QEP activity, project, program, or event: 80

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**Faculty Writing Fellows**
- Faculty Writing Fellows: 6
- Total Hours (SSU Writing Center): 825
- Total Tutoring Sessions: 592

**Faculty & Staff Participation in Writing-Related Conferences/Events**
- Total Conferences/Events: 8
- Total Hours: 137.5
- Instances of Participation: 18

WWW.QEP.SAVANNAHSTATE.EDU
Savannah State University’s 4th Annual Research Conference and RIMI Symposium

*Enhancing our students’ research and communication skills*

The Savannah State University’s 4th Annual Research Conference and RIMI Symposium was held on April 8th, 2014, and explored the theme “Creating Change While Seizing the Future.” The Quality Enhancement Plan was privileged to co-sponsor the event for a third year, helping to provide students with an important platform for their research.

Approximately 170 SSU undergraduate and graduate students presented research in engineering, management and marketing, biology, marine science, chemistry, mathematics, political science, and social work.

All student projects were eligible for awards. Presentations were judged by both faculty and community partners. The event sought to enhance student research and communication skills and to prepare them for careers in the global marketplace. The experience stimulated the interest of student, faculty, and community members in the area of research.

The Savannah State University Annual Research Conference and RIMI Symposium is designed to shape our students’ academic and professional lives.
Biology:
Shanice Caldwell (Senior)
Mr. James McCusker
(Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute)

Chemistry:
Marion Johnson (Senior)
Dr. Adegoye Adeyemo
(Savannah State University)

Engineering:
Patrick Dean, Jr. (Sophomore)
Dr. Asad Yousuf
(Savannah State University)

Environmental Science:
Jennifer Colley (Junior)
Dr. Hua Zhao
(Savannah State University)

Management & Marketing:
Benjamin Schwengel (Senior)
Dr. Suman Niranjan
(Savannah State University)

Marine Science:
1st Place:
Elijah J. Ferguson (Junior)
Dr. Tara Cox
(Savannah State University)

2nd Place:
Eric Parks (Senior)
Drs. Selena Heppell and
Matthew Ramirez
(Oregon State University)

Mathematics:
Vanda Johnson (Junior)
Dr. Hyounkyun Oh
(Clemson University)

Political Science & Public Affairs:
Robert Dickensheets (Senior)
Mr. Daniel Stowers
(City of Savannah)

Social & Behavioral Sciences:
China Brown (Senior)
Dr. Cecil Jones
(Savannah State University)

Social Work:
Jared Campbell
Evelyn Denard
(Savannah State University)

Semaj Grant
Dr. Shinaz G. Jindani
(Savannah State University)

Delores D. Liston
Dr. Shinaz Jindani
(Savannah State University)

Leslie E. Weir
Dr. Shinaz Jindani
(Savannah State University)

Marine Science:
1st Place:
Sarah Ramsden
Dr. Mary Carla Curran
(Savannah State University)

2nd Place:
Mike Scaboo
Dr. Chris Hintz
(Savannah State University)
QEP & ACADEMIC RESEARCH

**QEP - Related Conference Presentations**

- **“Assessing College Students’ Attitudes toward Writing: The Writing Disposition Scale”**
  *Presenter*: Dr. Lisa Yount, QEP Director  
  *Location*: Eastern Educational Research Association, Sarasota, FL  
  *Date*: February 21, 2013

- **“Symposium on Measuring the Affective Domain Using Thurstone Belief Scales, the Bloom and Krathwohl Taxonomy and Rasch Measurement”**
  *Presenter*: Dr. Lisa Yount, QEP Director  
  *Location*: Eastern Educational Research Association, Sarasota FL  
  *Date*: February 21, 2013

- **“The Metalanguage of Visual Humor: A Digital Pedagogy for Promoting Higher Order Thinking Skills in Freshman Composition”**
  *Presenter*: Dr. Nat Hardy, Graduate Studies Director  
  *Location*: 9th Annual Southeast Coastal Conference on Languages and Literatures, Savannah, GA  
  *Date*: March 29, 2012

- **“Harvesting and Laboring: Bodies for Sale in Harvest”**
  *Presenter*: Dr. Jenni Halpin, Department of English, Languages, and Cultures  
  *Location*: British Commonwealth and Postcolonial Studies Conference, Savannah, GA  
  *Date*: February 14, 2014

- **Title: “Code Switching in the Business Communications Classroom: A Case Study”**
  *Presenter*: Dr. Rebecca Setliff, College of Business and Administration  
  *Location*: Association for Business Communication: Southwest Regional Conference, Dallas, TX  
  *Date*: March 12, 2014

**QEP - Related Conference Attendance**

- **2013 Institute on Quality Enhancement and Accreditation (SACSCOC)**
  *Daytona Beach, FL; July 21-24, 2013*
  *Participants:*
  - Dr. Lisa Yount, QEP Director
  - Ms. Dee Dee Botticelli, Administrative Assistant to the QEP Director

- **2013 Assessment Institute**
  *Indianapolis, IN; October 26-29, 2013*
  *Participant: Dr. Lisa Yount, QEP Director*

- **2013 SACSCOC Annual Meeting**
  *Atlanta, GA; December 7-10, 2013*
  *Participants:*
  - Dr. Lisa Yount, QEP Director
  - Dr. Michelle Hernandez-Perez, Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences
  - Ms. Dee Dee Botticelli, Administrative Assistant to the QEP Director

- **Association of American Colleges and Universities General Education and Assessment Conference**
  *Portland, OR; February 27-March 1, 2014*
  *Participant: Dr. Lisa Yount, QEP Director*

- **Mid-Atlantic Writing Center Conference**
  *Salisbury, MD; April 4-5, 2014*
  *Participants:*
  - Dr. Melanie Goss, Writing Center Director
  - Ms. Tawauna Dixon, Writing Center Coordinator

- **14th Annual Student Success in Writing Conference**
  *Savannah, GA; April 4, 2014*
  *Participants:*
  - Dr. Bernard Bongang, Chair of Political Science and Public Administration
  - Dr. Dustin Michael, Department of English, Languages, and Cultures
  - Dr. Lisa Yount, QEP Director
  - Ms. Dee Dee Botticelli, Administrative Assistant to the QEP Director
  - Ms. Adriana de Oliveira, QEP Communications Coordinator

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**If you are interested in traveling to a conference that is related to writing, the Office of the QEP may be able to assist with expenses. To learn more, click here.**

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The Write Attitude: Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) @ Savannah State University
Writing Resources for Faculty and Staff:

Click on the links below and watch informative videos on student writing.

The Plagiarism Spectrum: Tagging 10 Types of Unoriginal Work
Based on results from a survey of nearly 900 secondary and higher education instructors, this webcast provides an overview of 10 types of plagiarism and helps students recognize incorrect uses of source material.

Click here

What's Wrong with Wikipedia? Best Practices for Evaluating Student Sources
This video focuses on recent finds regarding student research practices, and presents SEER—Source Educational Evaluation Rubric, a tool designed to evaluate the credibility of websites.

Click here

Peer Editing and the Writing Process
This audiovisual highlights peer editing and the writing process as ways of promoting students effective communication in writing and developing their love of learning.

Click here

Closing the Gap: What Students Say About Instructor Feedback
This webcast presents the results of a survey of 1,000 students on how instructor feedback impacts the development of student writing.

Click here

Source: turnitin.com

We kindly thank our Community Partners

♦ Savannah Book Festival
♦ Savannah Black Heritage Festival
♦ The Deep Center
♦ Seersucker Live

... and our Lunch & Learn Series Presenters

♦ Trelani Duncan, Self-Published Author
♦ Chief Charles Middleton, Fire Chief, Savannah Fire & Emergency Services
♦ Danah Qutob, Technical Writer, Gulfstream Aerospace
♦ Lady Mahogany, DJ at 94.1 The Beat and Director of Blessing in a Book Bag
♦ Krystal Hart, MPA, Public Relations Manager, City of Hinesville
♦ Wanda Lloyd, SSU Professor & Mass Communications Chair
♦ Karen Bogans, Communications Manager, International Paper

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