

QEP White Paper Discussion Starters

The questions below are meant to spark discussion about the QEP white papers and topics. Please consider these questions as you read the papers.

1. In what ways does the topic address student learning at HPU?
2. How does the topic respond to a gap or opportunity in the curriculum?
3. What opportunities does the topic afford you, your department, and/or your area?
4. What are the potential benefits of the topic to HPU?
5. What resources will the topic require?
6. How would you articulate the goals/objectives/outcomes for the topic, keeping in mind that the main focus must be on student learning?
7. How would you expand, narrow, or otherwise re-focus the topic?

The grid below is designed to help you understand the SACS expectations for the final QEP. As you consider each topic, think about what it would need in order to meet the expectations.

QEP Expectation	Description
Focused topic	The final plan should focus on improving student learning. It should be appropriate in focus, neither too broad nor too narrow in its scope. It needs to be grounded in institutional data. Its impact should be clear and measurable. Finally, the plan needs to be feasible.
Clear goals	The final plan should offer rigorous, measurable goals for student learning. These goals should clearly relate to the topic and all planned activities.
Adequate resources	The final plan requires the full support of the campus community. The appropriate amounts of human, material, and financial resources must be made available.
Evaluation strategies	The final plan must articulate how HPU will know if it has met its QEP goals. The evaluation strategies must be rigorous, and the results must inform a feedback loop.
Evidence of involvement	SACS will want to see that all appropriate institutional constituencies were involved in the development and implementation of the plan.

In addition to these accreditation-related expectations, please keep in mind that the QEP should be seen as a “signature piece” for the University. It should be a program with enough meaning, relevance, and significance that it is recognized as an important part of High Point University’s evolving identity.