



FLORIDA STATE
UNIVERSITY

Quality Enhancement Plan

Florida State University

Update for Faculty Senate – April 19, 2023

Piers Rawling, QEP Committee Chair



Reaffirmation of Accreditation

- *Includes standards relating to Institutional Planning and Effectiveness*
 - *Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP)*
 - *Previous plans included Leadership (2004) and Critical Thinking (2014)*
 - *Largely focused on undergraduates*



QEP Requirements

- a) has a topic identified through its ongoing, comprehensive planning and evaluation processes;
- b) has broad-based support of institutional constituencies;
- c) focuses on improving specific student learning outcomes and/or student success;
- d) commits resources to initiate, implement, and complete the QEP;
and
- e) includes a plan to assess achievement.



QEP Focus on Doctoral Education

- Builds on vision and leadership of FSU President
- Arose from FSU Strategic Plan (2017 & 2023) priorities on improving graduate education, research, innovation, and international rankings
- Connects to our AAU aspirations
- Is a logical extension of FSU's undergraduate student success initiatives



QEP Committee

- Includes 18 faculty and 3 doctoral students
 - Range of disciplines & colleges from across campus
- Supported by staff from the Graduate School, Institutional Research, Academic and Student Support, Accreditation, Assessment
- Has met bi-weekly since September 2022
- For more information, visit FSU's QEP website:
 - <https://sacs.fsu.edu/qep>



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Provost's Charge to the Committee

The QEP Committee must

- ✓ Review the university strategic plan and leadership priorities as the framework to guide the development of the plan regarding doctoral education
- ✓ Compile institutional data relevant to the university plan and leadership/BOT goals regarding doctoral education
- ✓ Identify potential gaps and areas needing improvement between current practices and leadership goals for doctoral education
- ✓ Review factors driving performance at AAU and aspirational institutions in doctoral education needing improvement at FSU
- ✓ Identify a topic within doctoral education as a priority of FSU based on identified gaps in areas needing improvement
- ✓ Examine best practices within doctoral education in light of university plan and leadership/BOT goals
- ✓ Conduct an extensive literature review of the topics within doctoral education identified as a priority
- ✓ Involve the campus community in the discussion and refinement of the topic within doctoral education
- ✓ Identify a brief set of initiatives within doctoral education that will enhance the university
- ✓ Develop a Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, Time Bound (SMART) assessment plan focused on student learning and/or student success within doctoral education
- ✓ Develop a resource plan for the implementation of the proposed plan and initiatives
- ✓ Delivery a completed report, including assessment and resource plan, to the Provost by September 15, 2023



Data Collection: Doctoral Education

- Reviewed best practices & relevant literature (Council of Graduate Schools)
- Reviewed FSU's participation in the doctoral completion project
- Surveyed students and faculty
- Conducted focus groups with FSU constituents
- Reviewed institutional data analyses
- Heard presentations from graduate support offices
- Reviewed work of participants of the AAU Initiative on Doctoral Education and other public institutions



Next Steps

- Identify specific, measurable initiatives
- Develop implementation plan
- Develop budget and resource plan, contingent upon funding from the Provost
- Prepare and submit final report
- Participate in meetings with the SACSCOC Onsite Reaffirmation Committee – March 2024