

Louisiana State University at Alexandria
Student QEP Focus Group
June 20, 2013 12pm

Participants: Erin Looney, Kelin Desselle, Hunter Dixon, Clarissa Pryor, Lauren Dupuy, Lacy Wilson

Procedures: Dr. Mary Treuting and Dr. Cathy Cormier contacted two faculty members teaching morning classes in the MPAC building and ask them to forward an email to students enrolled in their courses. Faculty were also requested to remind student verbally at the end of class. The sessions were scheduled at noon with pizza provided as an incentive to attend. Students present in the building were also recruited on site to participate. Students were informed that comments would be anonymous and participation was voluntary. Mary & Cathy introduced themselves before starting and explained the purpose of the QEP. The discussion was lead by the QEP Co-Chairs, Dr. Mary Treuting and Dr. Cathy Cormier. Notes were taken during the meeting to capture data provided by participants.

What will help student learning on campus?

- SI program is very helpful. Sometimes times are not good for people but my SI was “awesome” “very hands on” “we were very comfortable”
- We do a lot of observation (ed. Major) in classrooms from the beginning and this helps you decide right away if this is for me.
- Real life experience helps
- My last degree was in 89. Since 89 and now many things have changed and my first semester back it took me 3 days to get my parking permit. Was not clear what do. I still don't know what an Oaks account is. I came to orientation for transfer students but that information was not provided. Nobody seemed to know what was going on.
- My freshmen orientation was “pretty cool”

Where you prepared for college?

- Never really cared in HS. Coasted through my HS because it was easy. I had no idea what to take when I got here so just signed up for basic classes. Students need to learn time management, my parents pushed me.
- Need to find time for fun and school or it will kill you.
- 1st semester intro class would be good. Need details in every class. We have an Intro to Education major and I think all majors should have this. Everything is mapped out for you.

When you are struggling in class what helps?

- Math is my problem. I have been out of school since 97. I am a visual learner so when I do the problems it helps. No tutors in the summer.

- Teachers told us about the Math Lab and Kahn Academy, sometimes I also go to YouTube
- Love the writing center.
- Everyone should take grammar, it helps a lot. I never wrote a paper in HS. I found out that if it is a research paper I have to start 2 weeks before it is due. My teacher told me to start early.
- Best thing is time management.

Discussion about reading

- I never have time to read
- Too many chapters to read, never have time.
- I never read before class
- I took 18 hrs which was just too much.

What things do teachers do that help you learn?

- Asking questions in class.
- Lots just lecture and do not know how to involve students
- Some teachers get aggravated when you ask questions.
- When a teacher lets you write about what you want, makes you think, is there for you.
- Caring, make it easy to ask questions
- Teachers assume you know. I did not learn anything in HS. Teachers think you know stuff that you don't know.
- Straight lecture is hard to care because you just memorize.
- When you don't have class, might as well do class online. Why am I here, if I am paying for classes I will not take a teacher like that.

Discussion regarding orientation:

- Need more time for small classes less games
- Need orientation for LSUE students
- Remedial classes with LSUE was very helpful
- Need more information on financial aid and admissions, they assume you know stuff
- Financial aid workers are rude. "I do not like it" "very unorganized" "I was washed out of classes twice and it took 3 times to get it straight." "it is a mess"
- How to work Moodle, self service, My LSUA (another student stated that their group leader did do this)
- Students should be in class with professors that will teach them.
- My financial aid has been good, they have been very helpful, emailed me back. "I love the financial aid"
- "I feel like they are getting better"
- Students must see purpose of assignments. How they will help your future.