

# 2014-2015 and Beyond:

An i2a update to Associate Deans

August 21, 2014





#### **Overview**

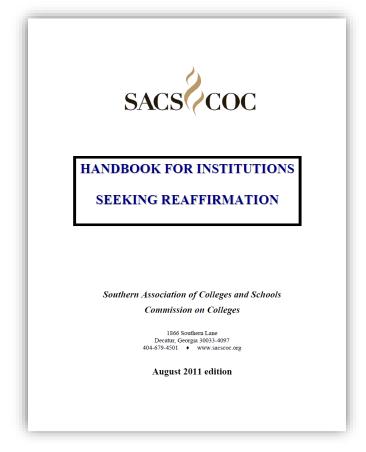


- Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP)
- 2014-2016 i2a Assessment Plan
  - What we are asking for this fall semester
  - What we are asking for after the fall semester (next two academic years)
- What is there to gain?
- What we need from you
- What you can expect from us
- Questions



# **Quality Enhancement Plan**

- The Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP)
  describes a course of action for
  enhancing educational quality.
- At UofL, it is an undergraduate QEP
- Core Requirement 2.12 requires that an institution develop an acceptable Quality Enhancement Plan that focuses on learning outcomes and/or the environment supporting student learning.







## **UofL's QEP: Ideas to Action (i2a)**

#### University of Louisville OEP IMPACT REPORT March 2013

SECTION 1: A succinct list of the initial goals and intended outcomes of the Quality Enhancement Plan In 2007, SACS approved the University of Louisville quality enhancement plan (QEP) titled "Ideas to Action: Using Critical Thinking to Foster Student Learning and Community Engagement" as a ten-year plan. This report serves as the five-year interim report. Ideas to Action (i2a) is our initiative to enhance undergraduate students' critical thinking skills and effectively prepare them to contribute to society. The plan is designed to help students build core critical thinking skills in General Education courses and sharpen these skills in discipline-specific contexts in the major courses. This critical thinking foundation supports students' completion of a culminating experience, guiding them to integrate practical application of disciplinary knowledge with higher-order thinking skills

Initial QEP Goal 1: Critical thinking will be explicitly taught in the general education courses and will be infused throughout the undergraduate curriculum. This approach prepares students to apply critical thinking skills across academic domains and to integrate them into their lives beyond campus. Schools or departments will develop culminating experiences for students in order to support students' abilities to make discoveries and connections a they apply critical thinking and disciplinary knowledge to authentic issues. Initial Intended Outcome: Students will be able to think critically

Initial OEP Goal 2: The undergraduate educational experience will center on a student's assimilation of skills and knowledge from a variety of disciplines to solve complex problems. Students benefit from ongoing opportunities to engage in integrated learning, reflection, and content application to real world situations. Initial Intended Outcome: Students will develop the ability to address community issues

SECTION 2: A Discussion of Changes Made to the QEP and the Reasons for Making Those Changes In 2007, we planned to move quickly from the blueprint stage to implementation of the QEP. However, it was necessary to enlarge the conversation and alter the original timeline in order to create a formal planning, piloting, and implementation cycle so we could respond to the realities of our environment rather than adhere to an ambitious but unrealistic plan. In the first 18 months, we worked closely with faculty, department chairs and Associate Deans to identify ongoing strategic priorities and to tailor our approach and timing to their curricular concerns cultural realities, and disciplinary discourse. What emerged was an evolutionary approach reflected in our timeline below.

Creating the Conceptual Framework for our QEP

Laying Groundwork, Defining Terms and Outcomes, Piloting Pedagogical Approaches

Ruilding Infrastructure Launching Programs

Creating Capacity for Growth and Scholarship

Piloting the Institution-wide Assessment Protoco

Engaging Units in Reporting Annual Activities and Outcom

2012-2013 Reporting data, Summarizing Progress, Preparing for Phase II

The following paragraphs describe the central components of our QEP, the changes that were made to each during

the first implementation phase, and the rationale for those changes.

Critical Thinking Framework
The QEP proposal envisioned i2a leadership providing an operational definition of critical thinking that infuses the language of critical thinking into the campus culture. Instead, we adopted a common critical thinking framework in lieu of discipline-specific definitions. After vetting a number of critical thinking learning models, we adopted the critical thinking framework by Richard Paul and Linda Elder because it is comprehensive in its inclusion of standards and elements of thinking it is discipline-neutral and can be overlaid on the content in all undergraduate programs and our university partners; it includes instructional support materials; and it is aligned with our current

Culminating Experience Component

### QEP Timeline at UofL

- Implemented: Fall 2007
- Interim Impact Report: March 2013
- Integration with full report: 2017

# Two *Integrated* Outcomes

- Students will be able to think critically
- Students will develop the ability to address community issues



# Two QEPs integrated into our curriculum and learning environment

2017 and beyond QEP: we have a new committee to lead QEP development for our reaccreditation in 2017

2007 2017

2007-2017 QEP: Ideas to Action



## How have we assessed i2a to date?

Collegiate
Assessment of
Academic Proficiency
(CAAP) Critical
Thinking Test (Direct
measure)

Course Syllabi (Indirect measure of environmental integration)

Alignment with General Education Curriculum — Committee

Faculty Survey of Student Engagement (Indirect measure)



Annual SLO reports (Integrated and aligned i2a components with the annual SLO report process)

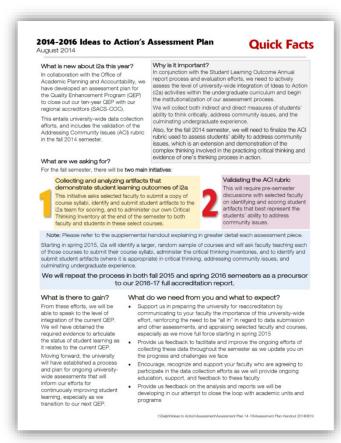
Unit-based assessment efforts (e.g. Speed School, CEHD)

Classroom Posters (Indirect measure of environmental integration)

National Survey of Student Engagement (Indirect measure)



# What is new about i2a this year?



Please refer to you Quick Facts Handout

# 2014-2016 i2a Assessment Plan

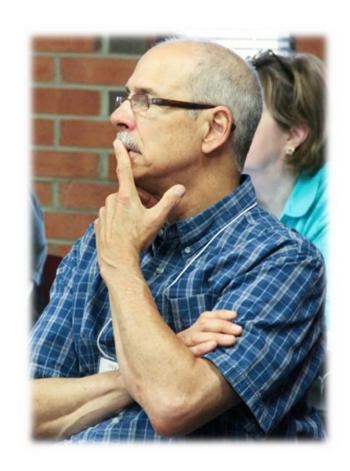
(in collaboration with the Office of Academic Planning and Accountability)

- Builds on foundational i2a work to date
- Prepares us for 2017 reaccreditation process
- Requires university-wide data collection
- Data collection efforts will engage the units and span two academic years starting fall 2014 semester



# Why is it important?

- We see breadth and depth of universitywide integration of i2a across undergraduate curricula beyond annual SLO reports
- Allows us to collect the data for the required minimum of two academic years prior to SACS reaccreditation in 2017
- Will help us develop meaningful feedback for our university community regarding QEP impact and integration and student learning





# What are we asking for this fall?

The fall 2014 semester assessment initiative will be two-fold:

- 1. The university-wide i2a data collection effort (2014-16 i2a assessment plan);
- 2. Validating the Addressing Community Issues, in the discipline or the world more generally rubric



Collect and analyze artifacts that demonstrate student learning outcomes of i2a

- Course Syllabi indirect measure
- Sample assignments (CT, CUE) direct measure
- Critical Thinking Inventories (Teaching and Learning) - indirect measure

(using currently available i2a rubrics and tools)

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Validate the Addressing Community Issues, in the discipline or the world more generally (ACI) rubric

 pre-semester discussions with selected faculty on identifying and scoring student artifacts using the ACI rubric



## Where are we now?



# Collect and analyze student learning outcomes related to i2a in select courses

- Select undergraduate faculty who are teaching courses in the fall have been notified by phone and sent a follow-up email outlining in detail the i2a assessment needs for the fall semester
- Met with 12 of 18 faculty members regarding the collection of critical thinking artifacts, course syllabi, and administering the Critical Thinking Inventories
- Learning Critical Thinking Inventory has been created in Blackboard Learn
- Teaching Critical Thinking Inventory has been created in Blue Survey
- Faculty for the CUE have not yet been contacted
- We have representation across the campus



#### Validate the Addressing Community Issues, in the discipline or the world at large (ACI) rubric

- Select undergraduate faculty who are teaching courses in the fall have been notified by phone and sent a follow-up email outlining in detail the process for validating the rubric
- 13 of 20 faculty members have agreed to score an assignment using the ACI rubric
- Provided training opportunities on using the ACI rubric and scoring student artifacts



# What are we asking for after the fall semester?

# Spring 2015 effort

- Executing a larger, random sampling of courses
  - Submit syllabi for i2a language and environmental integration
  - Submit student artifacts for critical thinking, CUE, and ACI for scoring by i2a team and *others* (Note: ACI artifacts will be included in the data collection effort)
  - Administer the Learning and Teaching Critical Thinking Inventories at the end of the semester (possibly mid-semester as well)

# 2015-2016 academic year

 Repeat the data collection process to contribute to 2016-2017 full accreditation report



# What is there to gain?

- The ability to systematically implement and assess the university-wide integration of our current and future QEP (ongoing efforts beyond 2017)
- Collect the necessary assessment pieces of student learning to finalize our current QEP efforts
- Opportunity to develop meaningful feedback (both summative and formative) for our university community to inform program decisions and continuously improve student learning





# What we need from you & when

#### By Wednesday, August 27th:

- Review faculty course list for fall data collection efforts and ACI validation process
- · We will be sending you an email early next week with information about which faculty need follow-up
- We will identify any gaps and request your assistance in recruiting appropriate faculty from your unit

#### By Friday, October 31st:

- Share with faculty an i2a correspondence we will generate regarding the spring 2015 i2a assessment efforts
- We will provide you with a preliminary list of faculty for spring 2015 data collection

#### By Friday, November 14th:

- Review faculty course list for spring 2015 data collection efforts that will be provided to you in October
- We will identify gaps and request your assistance in recruiting appropriate faculty from your unit

#### If you have any questions or need additional assistance, please contact:

- i2a Data Collection effort (fall and beyond): Il Young Barrow (il.barrow@louisville.edu)
- Critical Thinking (fall only): Edna Ross, Ph.D. (edna.ross@louisville.edu)
- ACI rubric validation (fall only): Nisha Gupta, Ph.D. (nisha.gupta@louisville.edu)



# What you can expect from us



We will support you and your faculty in these ways:

- Provide individual or small group training as needed for ACI rubric validation
- Provide additional assistance in identifying and submitting appropriate student artifacts
- Do our best to streamline efforts when possible (utilizing Blackboard, Blue, etc.)

2014-16 i2a Assessment Plan to the Unit Deans:

September 2, 2014 Chief Academic Officers (CAO) meeting

We are committed to providing continuous feedback:

- Ongoing updates throughout the semester (AD monthly meetings)
- Develop meaningful reports to inform your practice and program decision making



# **Questions**



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