The QEP Leadership Team met on Wednesday, October 2nd at 10:00 a.m. in the Ballroom. Present were Ms. Mary Aquila, Ms. Kim Bell, Ms. Lauren Blacklidge, Dr. Chet Breaux, Dr. Bridgette Chandler, Ms. Juliana Cislo, Ms. Pam Clark, Recorder; Ms. Dakota Cotton, Mr. Tim Crafton, Ms. Barbara Ferguson, Mr. Jeffrey Guenther, Dr. Diann Hammon, Ms. Laura Lynn Kerner, Ms. Chelsea Love, Ms. Katia Maxwell, Ms. Elizabeth Mead, Mr. Aron Moss, Dr. Michael Radden, Dr. Kim Roberts, Dr. Jackie Smith, Ms. Brittany Stanley, Dr. Quanda Stevenson, Dr. Darlene Turner-White, Dr. Philip Way and Ms. Debbie Wilson. Mr. Nick Agrawal, Ms. Laura Allen, Ms. Carolyn Carthen, Ms. Helen Crider, Dr. Mark Gale, Ms. Savannah Pearson, Dr. Shannon Pittman, Mr. Derrek Smith and Dr. Bruce Thomas were absent.

President Way opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and thanked each attendee for their time.

- **Welcome and Background**
  - QEP survey results were reviewed and it was determined that three categories dominated the survey:
    - Academic quality
    - Curricular matters
    - Competencies for success
  - As a result of the survey review, Experiential Learning will be the topic of the QEP.

- **Charge**
  - Dr. Way discussed the concept of a QEP and charged the group to follow the following hallmarks of a strong QEP:
    - Quality educational experience
    - Experiential in nature
    - Purposeful
  - Ms. Maxwell asked how to go about communicating to the public class projects (internships) involving the community.
  - Dr. Way suggested one way is to delegate a point person between businesses and the program coordinators. Another way could be through the Center for Lifelong Learning (CLL).
  - Dr. Way stated he wants the community to see Athens State as an “anchor institution” where we are attuned to job opportunities and create programs with curriculum and skill sets that meet the needs of the job force.

Dr. Way excused himself for the team to discuss the remaining agenda items. Dr. Smith convened the meeting.
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- **Review Survey and Responses**
  - There were 1,170 responses to the QEP survey with a good sample mix of students, faculty, staff, Board of Trustee, and community responses.
  - 24% of the responses were connected to experiential or active learning.

- **Review Timeline**
  - Plans for the QEP began Fall of 2018.
  - January 2021 - QEP pilot will be implemented in the spring semester.
  - March 2021 – QEP Report is due to SACS and the on-site committee will visit.

- **Blackboard Organization**
  - For the next six to nine months the team will be fact finding.
  - Blackboard (Bb) will be the tool used for sharing all of the information.
  - Various team members gave examples of class projects on experiential learning in their courses.

- **Next Steps**
  - Dr. Way will send out an announcement of the QEP topic to the institution where he will also identify the members of the QEP team.
  - Subcommittees will be formed within the QEP committee.
  - QEP team will research the topic and place documentation in Bb.
  - The team will determine how to incorporate distance learners.

Dr. Smith thanked everyone for their time and for being on the committee.

The meeting adjourned at 10:58 a.m.

Respectfully submitted: Pamela D. Clark

Handouts given at meeting:

1. Agenda
2. QEP Timeline
3. Experiential Learning