



# Cornerstone Experience

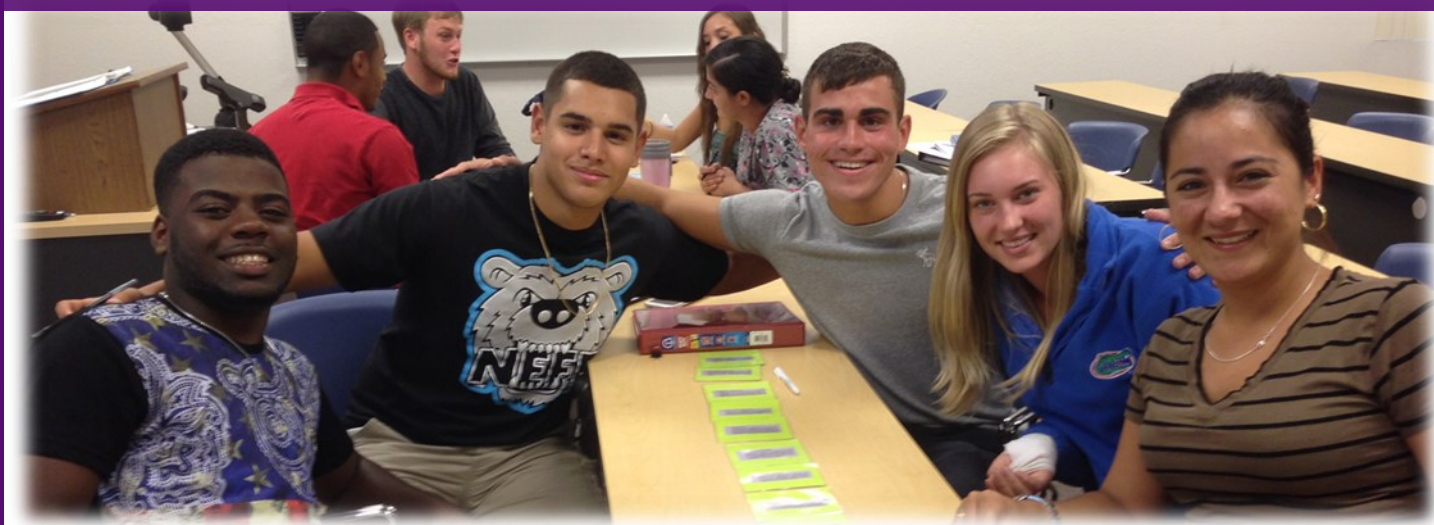
## Building a Foundation for Success



# Quality Enhancement Plan

Implementation Year 2: 2013-2014

Annual Review Summary



## SLS 1515 Cornerstone Experience

- 103 sections of SLS 1515 were offered college-wide
- 2,298 students were served through the course
- 37 faculty, staff, and administrators taught the course representing the following areas: Business, Nursing, Economics, Foreign Language, Sociology, Psychology, Academic Success, Enrollment Management, Student Affairs, Library, and Developmental Studies
- Students testing into developmental courses were required to take SLS 1515: Cornerstone Experience



## New Student Programs Office

- 34 Peer Architects served as student leaders and gained leadership experience while serving as peer mentors
- 8 Service Saturdays were held giving students the opportunity to serve the community while representing Florida SouthWestern State College
- Over 950 community service hours were volunteered supporting the following community organizations: The Imaginarium, Habitat for Humanity, Lee County Heart Walk, SWFL Reading Festival, and the Charlotte County Sheriff's Office
- Over 4,151 sign-ins were recorded for workshops and events



## Training, Development, and Service

\*As of August 2014

- 602 faculty/staff have completed a QEP training module
- 140 faculty/staff have completed all ten modules
- Over 110 faculty and staff attended the Cornerstone Summer Training Institute
- 95 faculty, staff, and administrators served on QEP Committees





**Dr. Denis Wright**  
**Provost and Vice President, Academic Affairs**

Why bother with a QEP?

The easy answer is that it is a required part of our Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) Commission on Colleges accreditation. Core Requirement 2.12. As a SACS-COC reviewer of other colleges, I take the evaluation of an institution's QEP plan very seriously. Institutions achieve "quality" when they are intentional and focused on the mission of student learning and/or the environment which supports it. The beauty of FSW's QEP is that it is focused on both aspects. Student learning outcomes (especially critical thinking) are intentional in the course design and the subsequent evaluation instruments are used to measure success. The supporting environment is also built into the extra-curricular requirements. The QEP is having measurable success on ensuring students survive and prosper during the critical first year of college. Why bother with a QEP? It is the organizing structure for the first-year student. The QEP currently impacts more students, faculty, and staff than any other initiative at the college. Student success is everyone's job and FSW's QEP is designed to make sure new students are given a model with which they can succeed.

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**Dr. Eileen DeLuca**  
**Assistant Vice President, Academic Affairs**  
**Co-Chair and Director, Quality Enhancement Plan**

A first-year experience course is a unique blend of the development of academic and social skills. FSW's QEP has strengthened the relationship among Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, and Enrollment Management for the betterment of the students. During the College's second year of full implementation of the QEP, faculty, staff and administrators from across the college's programs and campuses continued to work together to promote student success through data-informed initiatives. The qualitative and quantitative data we collect demonstrates that participation in the SLS 1515 course and FYE Programs has positively impacted student engagement, persistence and academic achievement. Beginning Fall 2014, all first-time in college degree-seeking students are required to enroll in and successfully complete the Cornerstone Experience course. To continue to best support student success, we look forward to expanded partnerships with departments through linked courses, honors affiliate opportunities, and career-interest based sections.

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**Dr. Kathy Clark**  
**Associate Dean, Academic Success**  
**Co-Chair, Quality Enhancement Plan**

During the 2013/2014 academic year, an opportunity surfaced for the college to advance its timeline of full implementation of the QEP. Data from the 2013/14 academic year revealed many student achievements, including the QEP goals of increased retention and student engagement. Achievement of these goals can be attributed to the dedicated faculty and staff working together to enhance the students' first-year experience. As Norman Vincent Peale states: "People become really quite remarkable when they start thinking that they can do things. When they believe in themselves, they have the first secret of success." This is the hope we try to instill in our students. As we move forward with the full implementation of the QEP, let us reflect on the data presented in this annual review and the numerous ways in which the Cornerstone Experience course provides students with the tools for success!

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Academic Year 2013 –2014 marked the second year of full implementation of the QEP. During this year, first-year students testing into any developmental course were required to enroll in the Cornerstone Experience course (SLS 1515).

### Term-to-Term Retention Rates

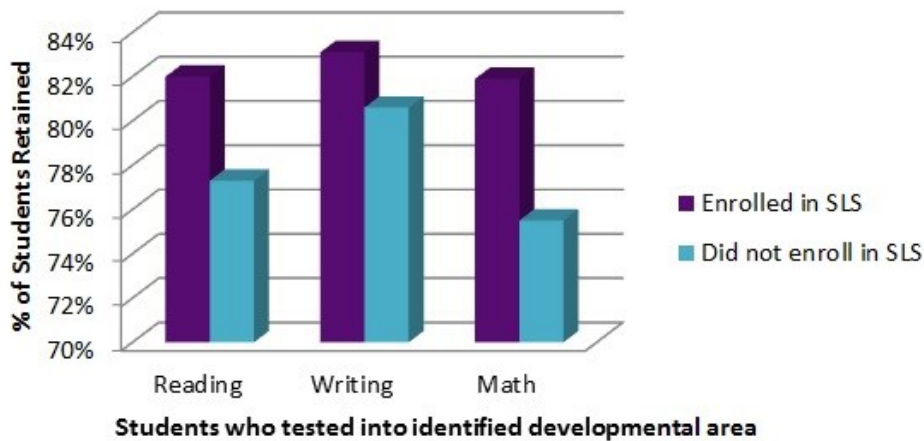


Table 1 shows the term -to-term retention rates of students testing into each developmental discipline (i.e. Reading, Writing, Mathematics). Students testing into developmental courses who were enrolled in the Cornerstone Experience course (SLS 1515) were retained to the next semester at greater rates than students testing into developmental courses who were not enrolled in the SLS 1515.



#### Dr. Joseph van Gaalen, Coordinator Academic Assessment

I think it's telling that the retention rates of SLS 1515 students and non-SLS students exhibit statistically significant differences at the term-to-term level. The answer to the question of why this is will help drive instruction in sync with the purpose of assessment.

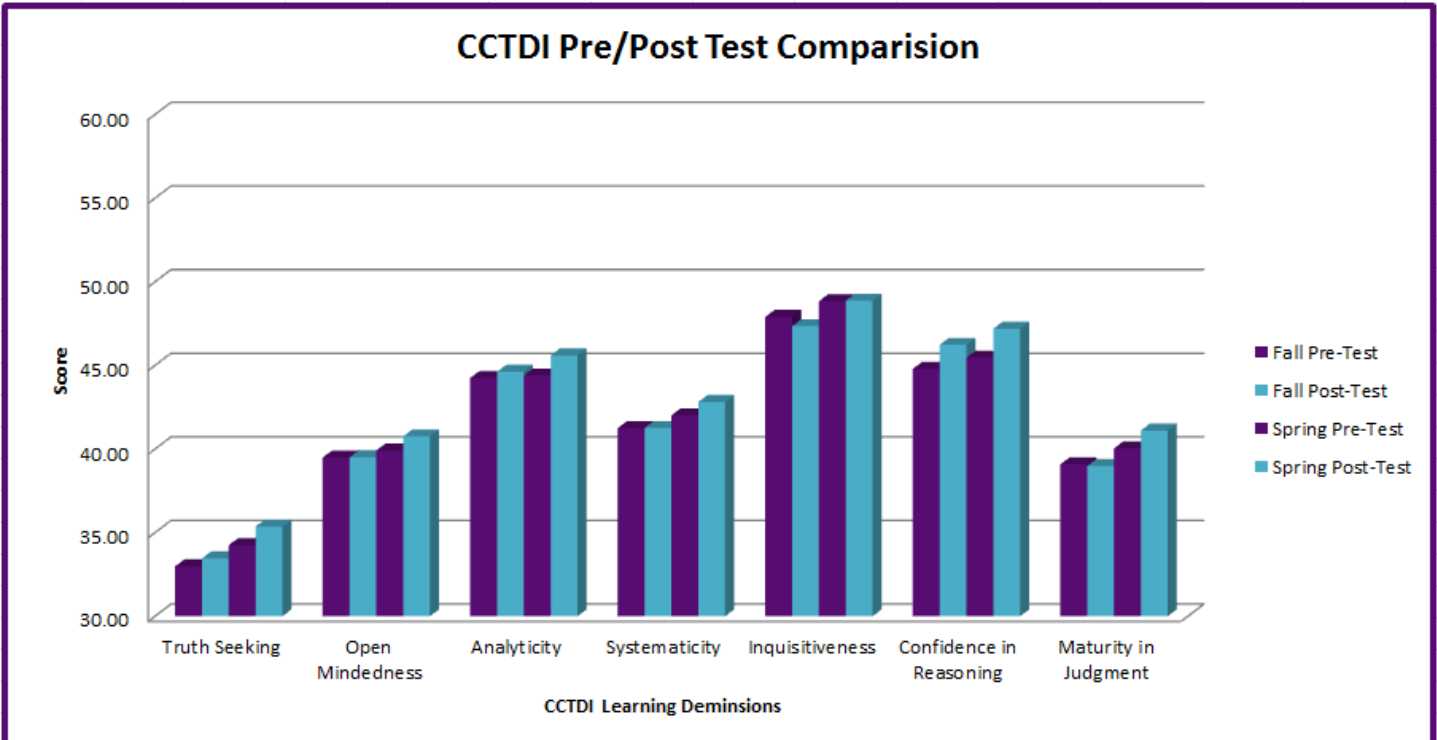
### Term-to-Term Retention Rates



Table 2 shows the term-to-term retention rates for first-year students from Fall to Spring over the last three years. Students who enrolled in SLS 1515 class in Fall 2013 were retained and continue their education at higher rates than those students who did not enroll in SLS 1515.

Note: The first semester of full implementation of the QEP was Fall 2012. At that time students testing into two or more developmental courses were required to enroll in SLS 1515. During Fall 2013, students testing into any number of developmental courses were required to enroll in SLS 1515.

Each semester, Cornerstone students take the California Critical Thinking Disposition Inventory (CCTDI) as a Pre-Test and Post-Test. The chart below shows a comparison of the mean scores for Fall 2013 and Spring 2014 CCTDI results. Among the seven dimensions of Critical Thinking behaviors measured by the exam, students achieved the greatest gains in Confidence in Reasoning, Analyticity, and Truth Seeking.



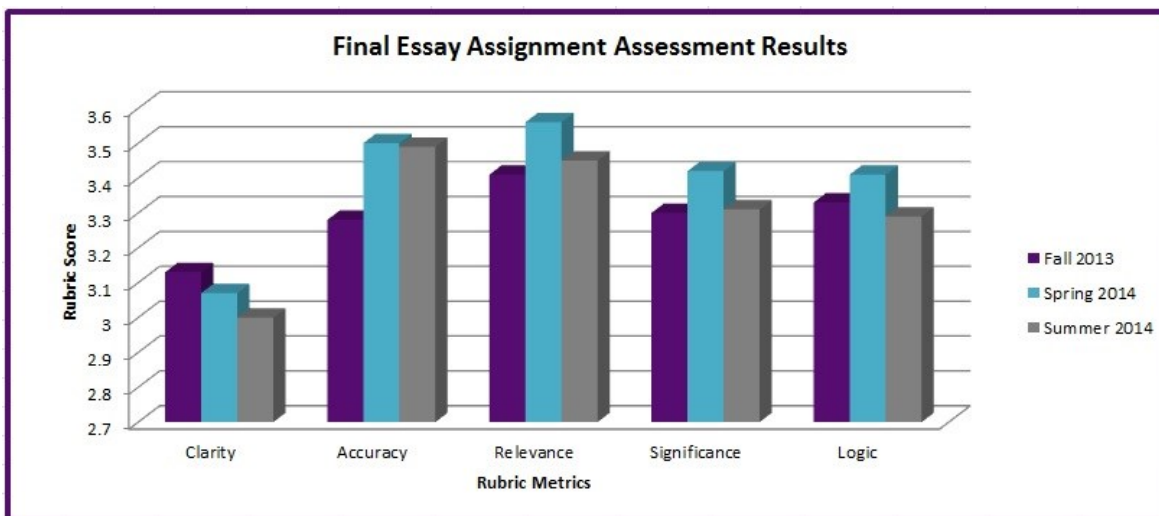
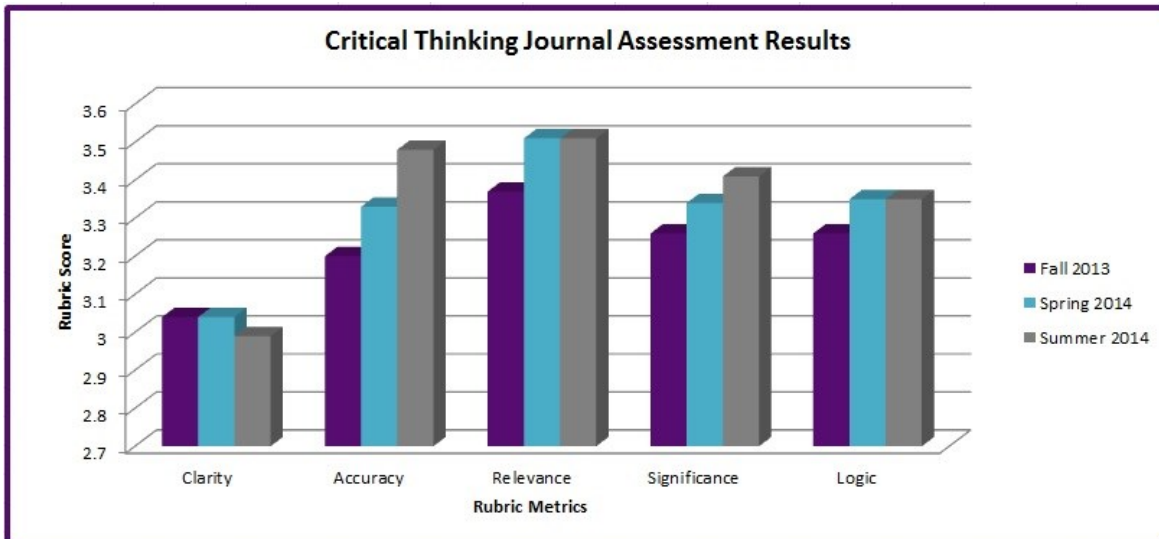
### Professor Scott VanSelow, Cornerstone Experience

Being involved with the QEP through the QEP Advisory Committee and the QEP Assessment Committee has been one of the highlights of my career at FSW. It is very rewarding to work on enhancing quality and improving student success. My fellow committee members also make it enlightening and fun. I am looking forward to expanding my participation with the QEP in my new role as a full-time Cornerstone Experience faculty member.

### Critical Thinking Initiatives

- In Spring 2014, a workshop entitled “Engendering Truth-seeking Dispositions in College Classrooms” was offered to faculty through the Teaching and Learning Center.
- In Spring 2014, Lee Campus Library faculty began offering “Truth-seeking” workshops for students. Information from the workshops includes: learning how to evaluate information, credibility of websites and searching for information on the Internet. Due to their popularity, all campuses and centers began offering these workshops in Fall 2014.
- Beginning Fall 2014, the college will offer a “Critical Thinking in Careers” lecture series for students. The series feature faculty, administrators, staff and community leaders.
- The annual Cornerstone Critical Thinking event in Fall 2013 was led by Jeremy Scahill. The theme was “Critical Thinking in the Media.” Dr. Christian Parenti is scheduled for Fall 2014 event. The theme is “Thinking Critically about Climate Change and Violence.”
- Three faculty members attended the International Conference on Critical Thinking in summer 2014, and have committed to leading trainings in AY 2014-2015.
- In the Community of Practice meetings, faculty reviewed the results for each domain and discussed ways to model and support the development of critical thinking dispositions in the SLS 1515 course.

Students demonstrate achievement of Critical Thinking skills through journal entries and a final essay scored with a faculty-designed Critical Thinking rubric. The goal is that students who complete the course will achieve a 3 (accomplished) or higher on all relevant aspects of the rubric. The charts below display overall mean scores (on a four-point scale) for each rubric domain by semester.

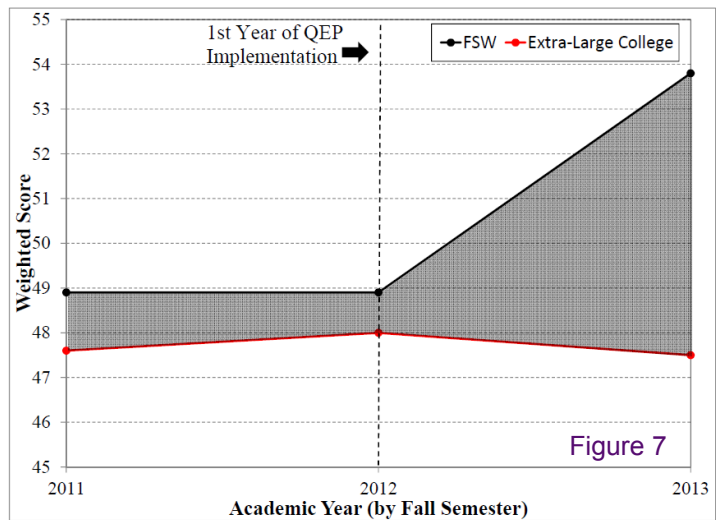
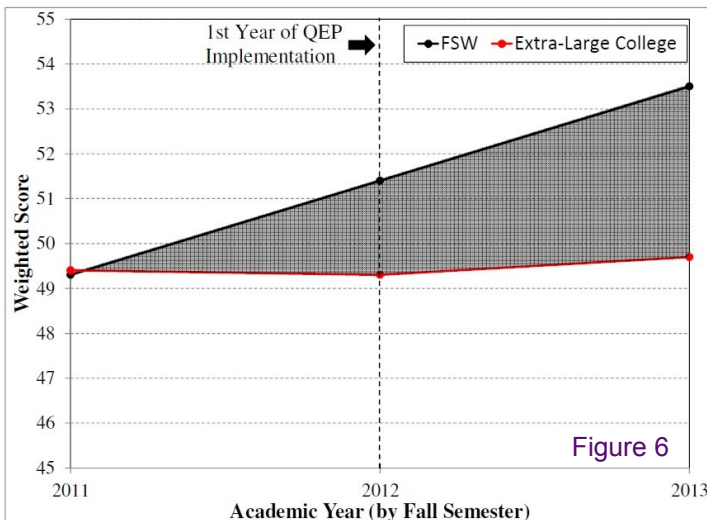


## Writing Support Initiatives

- Faculty continue to provide writing feedback and encourage students to have their writing reviewed by instructional assistants to receive feedback on clarity and use of Standard English.
- Faculty engaged in a rubric standardization and anchor paper development session on June 4, 2014. During the session, faculty reviewed student artifacts and engaged in an affinity process to identify exemplars to use as anchor papers. Anchor papers with annotations will be made available to faculty in Fall 2014.
- In Spring 2013, “Academic Journaling 101” workshops were piloted by the Academic Success Center on the Lee Campus. Due to their popularity, in Fall 2014, “Academic Journaling 101” workshops will be offered on all campuses and centers.



Through administration of the SENSE survey, FSW collects and analyzes data about institutional practices and student behaviors in the earliest weeks of college. These data can help colleges understand students' critical early experiences and improve institutional practices that affect student success in the first college year. Figure 6 shows the increase in the engaged learning metrics and Figure 7 shows an increase in students having a clear academic plan or pathway since the implementation of the college's QEP in Fall, 2012.



## Robert "Dobin" Anderson, Director, Online Learning

More and more FSW instructors are using Canvas (FSW's learning management system). It has been extremely helpful that the students in the Cornerstone Experience course are required to use Canvas to complete their assignments. This allows them to get comfortable with the system early on and makes it more likely that they become proficient with the system for future courses.

### Technology Initiatives

- Peer Architects continue to receive technology training to be able to support SLS 1515 students.
- The New Student Programs Office continues to offer technology workshops and support college-wide. In AY 2014-2015, New Student Programs will collaborate with FSW Online Staff and Computer Science faculty to expand technology workshop offerings.

### Engagement Initiatives

- Beginning Fall 2014, the QEP Assessment Subcommittee I collaboration with the QEP Marketing Subcommittee will send a periodic "Did You Know?" with the most relevant SENSE or CCSSE results and related suggestions for improving student engagement.
- Beginning Fall 2014, the courses formerly offered at 5:30p.m. will be offered beginning at 6:00p.m. to allow evening students to attend workshops and support centers before class.
- During AY 2014-2015, the Office of New Student Programs and Student Life will join efforts to create additional Service Saturday opportunities. Also, Student Life will host their first service oriented Spring Break promoting literacy with the United Way.



Peer Architects are student leaders who help students with their transition to Florida SouthWestern State College. Each Peer Architect serves as a mentor for first-year students. Peer Architects are assigned to a specific section of the Cornerstone Experience Class (SLS 1515), have office hours in the New Student Programs office, and facilitate workshops throughout the semester.



**Peer Architect Testimonial**

*“I love every moment of being a Peer Architect! This position has allowed me to improve my public speaking skills and leadership ability.”*

**Widler Limage, Lee Campus**

*“The Peer Architect position greatly enhanced my confidence and ability to direct others. I strongly feel as though I've improved as both a student and an employee.”*

**Grace Younger, Collier Campus**



*“I truly enjoyed my position as a peer architect; working with and helping the students was very rewarding.”*

**Victoria Pinto, Charlotte Campus**



The Cornerstone Experience course encourages students to participate in a wide range of campus activities. Each month, the NSP office tracks student engagement with various departments across campus and rewarded the most involved class with the Cornerstone Award and a pizza party.

## Cornerstone Involvement Award Winners

September



September 2013: Professor Miller's Class with PA Rachel logged 9,883 minutes during September engaging in campus events and workshops.

October



October 2013: Professor Rhyne's class logged 10,599 minutes during October attending campus events and workshops.

January 2014: Dr. DeLuca's class with PA Joseph logged 4,525 minutes engaging in service events, workshops, and activities.



January

February



Professor Miller's class with PA April logged 6,653 minutes during the month of February.



Professor Heck's class with PA Miesha logged 2,327 minutes during the month of March.

March





The 2014 Cornerstone Summer Training Institute was a success. Over 110 faculty and staff participated in one or more of the workshops. Keynote speakers included Dr. Mark Taylor, an award winning speaker who is recognized internationally as an educator, expert and consultant and Kevin C. Clarke, Program Coordinator for Faculty Development and Assessment with the University 101 Programs at the University of South Carolina. Highlights from the Summer Training Institute are featured below.



Dr. Mark Taylor



Kevin C. Clarke



Cornerstone Summer Training Institute



### **Cindy Baker, Professor Mathematics**

I like the timing of the summer Cornerstone Institute because you've finished your whole year of teaching and by then you feel like you have spent everything. It's a good time to be rejuvenated, to affirm some of the beliefs you've had, and to give you new ideas that you can transfer to the upcoming school year. It's a chance to see those you already know and meet other professors from other disciplines that you would not normally get to interact with. You feel more like you are part of the whole picture rather than being isolated in your little corner of the campus.



### **Dr. Christy Gilfert, Charlotte Campus Dean**

I have had the pleasure of leading several QEP training workshops for faculty and staff this year. My two favorite workshops discuss college resources and understanding first-year students. New faculty and staff are often amazed at the number and variety of resources we offer students. In addition, when faculty and staff begin to understand and think critically about the needs of our first-year students, they generate great ideas to help these students thrive both in and out of the classroom. I am so proud to work at an institution where the faculty and staff are truly committed to helping each and every student be successful.



### **Dr. Rebecca Gubitti, Professor of Math & Cornerstone Experience**

The QEP's commitment to Training and Development is exemplified by the fact 140 faculty and staff have completed all ten QEP training modules and 602 have completed at least one module. The summer Critical Thinking workshops have been successful and attended by over 110 FSW personnel. Training continues to evolve and promote success for Cornerstone faculty and students. It is exciting and encouraging to see the dedication of FSW administration, faculty and staff have in promoting the Cornerstone course and helping students be successful.

The QEP is developed and supported by faculty, staff, and administrators college-wide representing each campus/center location, and numerous departments.

Thanks to all those who served as a member of a QEP committee during the 2013-2014 academic year!

Purple denotes faculty members	White denotes staff and administration
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QEP Implementation Team 2013-2014		
Committee Member	Department	Campus
Dr. Eileen DeLuca, Chair	College and Career Readiness	Region
Laura Antczak	Student Affairs	Region
Dr. Kathy Clark	Social Science	Collier
Duke Dipofi	Academic Affairs	Hendry/Glades Center
Christy Gilfert	Student Affairs	Charlotte
Cindy Lewis	Enrollment Management	Collier
Dr. Tom Rath	School of Arts & Sciences	Charlotte
Whitney Rhyne	New Student Programs	Lee
Dr. Martin Tawil	FYE /SLS	Lee
Dr. Denis Wright	Academic Affairs	Region

Subcommittee: QEP Assessment 2013-2014		
Committee Member	Department	Campus
Dr. Eileen DeLuca, co-Chair	College and Career Readiness	Region
Dr. Kevin Coughlin, co-Chair	Academic Affairs	Region
Laura Alvarez	Student Support Services	Lee
Chitra Paul	AS Nursing	Lee
Jeff Gibbs	Academic Affairs	Hendry/Glades Center
Sabine Maetzke	Social Science	Lee
Susan Marcy	Office of the General Counsel	Region
Monica Moore	Academic Support Programs	Lee
Crystal Revak	Academic Affairs	Lee
Dr. Amy Trogan	English	Lee
Scott Van Selow	Computer Science	Lee
Abby Willcox	Research, Technology, Accountability	Region



### Abby Willcox, Director, Institutional Research

Serving on the QEP Assessment Committee has been a rewarding learning experience for me. As someone who rarely interacts with students, the perspectives of those members who both serve on the committee and teach the SLS 1515 class have been especially enlightening and informative.





**Jeff Gibbs**  
**Director**  
**Hendry Glades Center**

The first-year experience program has been embraced by the entire Hendry Glades Center community of students, faculty and staff. It's a welcome addition to our toolkit for serving students and helping them achieve success. We're looking forward to more great first-year experience programming in the years to come!



**Kelley Newhouse**  
**Professor, Cornerstone Experience**

The First-Year Experience course provides opportunities for students to strengthen critical thinking skills, engage in discussions with other students, connect with college resources, and apply learning in order to be academically successful. Developing a deeper understanding of their individual strengths, values, and preferences can help students communicate more effectively and create concrete steps to achieve goals.

Subcommittee: QEP Advisory 2013-2014		
Committee Member	Department	Campus
Dr. Eileen DeLuca	College and Career Readiness	Region
Dr. Kathy Clark	Social Sciences	Collier
Louisa Bobadilla	Enrollment Management	Charlotte
Stacey Brown	Human Services	Lee
Cindy Campbell	Library	Lee
Michael Chiacchierro	Mathematics	Collier
Dr. Kevin Coughlin	Academic Affairs	Region
Dr. Denton DiPofi	Academic Affairs	Hendry/Glades Center
Dr. Christy Gilfert	Enrollment Management	Charlotte
Dr. Rebecca Gubitti	Developmental Studies, Math	Lee
Dr. Waldon Hagan	Student Affairs	Region
David Hoffman	Business and Technology	Region
George Manacheril	Science	Charlotte
Kelly Newhouse	FYE/SLS	Collier
Tina Ottman	Science	Collier
Dr. Tom Rath	Business and Technology	Region
Whitney Rhyne	New Student Programs	Lee
Melissa Rizzuto	Professional Development	Lee
Sandra Seifert	Mathematics	Hendry/Glades Center
Dr. Martin Tawil	FYE/SLS	Lee
Scott VanSelow	Computer Science	Lee
Myra Walters	Speech and Communications	Lee
Dr. William Wilcox	Science	Charlotte
Dr. Denis Wright	Academic Affairs	Region

Subcommittee: QEP Marketing 2013-2014		
Committee Member	Department	Campus
Whitney Rhyne, Chair	New Student Programs	Lee
Dr. Kathy Clark	Social Science	Collier
Kristin Corkhill	Dual Enrollment	Region
Dr. Christy Gilfert	Student Affairs	Charlotte
David Hoffman	Business	Lee
Linda Johnsen	New Student Programs	Collier
Valerie Miller	Legal & Risk	Lee
Dr. Thomas Rath	Business and Technology	Region
Myra Walters	Speech	Lee



**Wanda Day**  
Professor, Cornerstone Experience

Impacting my students and having another professor tell me that this class is changing students' behaviors is truly what I enjoy most!



**Dr. Martin Tawil**  
Professor, Cornerstone Experience

The Cornerstone Experience course is a course that will help students transition into the educational world.

The main purpose of the course is help students experience success and feel part of the FSW family. Through the use of critical thinking, students are able to engage in problem-solving that will enrich their college experience as well as their personal lives.

### Subcommittee: Early Alert 2013-2014

Committee Member	Department	Campus
Whitney Rhyne, Chair	New Student Programs	Lee
Helen Algernon	New Student Programs	Lee
Laura Alvarez	Student Support Services	Lee
Sarah Corcoran	Registration	Lee
Kristin Corkhill	Dual Enrollment	Lee
Cindy Enslin	Speech	Lee
Linda Freeman	Student Services	Lee
Loretta Fritsche	Academic Advising	Lee
Dr. Christy Gilfert	Student Affairs	Charlotte
Lynn Gledhill	Financial Aid	Lee
Linda Johnsen	New Student Programs	Collier
Dawn Kulpanowski	Social Science	Collier
Melanie LeMaster	Reading	Lee
Cal Majure	Financial Aid	Lee
Karen Miller	Academic Advising	Lee
Thomas Mohundro	English	Collier
Monica Moore	Academic Support Programs	Lee
Nadine Niforos	Academic Advising	Charlotte
Susan Potts	Academic Advising	Lee
Jill Rhode	Admissions / Dual Enrollment	Lee
Kristi Rickman	Student Affairs	Region
Candace Rosene	Math	Lee
Christina Seado Vasquez	Student Services	Collier
Frances O. Thomas	New Student Programs	Lee
Kim Turano	Edison Online	Lee
Catherine Vache	Math	Lee

### Subcommittee: Cornerstone Curriculum 2013-2014

Committee Member	Department	Campus
Dr. Martin Tawil, Chair	FYE/SLS	Lee
Dr. Eileen DeLuca	Career and College Readiness	Region
Cindy Ewald	FYE/SLS	Lee
Dr. Caroline Seefchak	English	Region
Elaine Schaeffer	Education	Lee
Robert Olancin	EAP	Collier
Tom Mohundro	English	Collier
Karen Maguire	Reading	Collier
Karen Miller	Advising	Lee
Freida Miller	FYE/SLS	Lee
Jamie Marecz	Math	Lee



**Linda Johnsen**  
**Coordinator, New Student Programs—Collier Campus**

New Student Programs (NSP) assists students with their transition into their first-year experience. Starting with orientation, we continue to help students adapt to their new environment and mindset through our programming. Our peer mentor program and NSP connect new students to college resources, encourage collegiate engagement with campus activities, and offer the tools necessary to be successful at FSW. Being a part of this transition is both rewarding and exciting.

Subcommittee: Orientation, Registration, Advising 2013-2014		
Committee Member	Department	Campus
Laura Antczak, Chair	Enrollment Management	Region
Mary Sue Chupak	Academic Advising	Lee
Dr. Eileen DeLuca	College and Career Readiness	Region
Dr. Christy Gilfert	Student Affairs	Charlotte
Linda Johnsen	New Student Programs	Collier
Andrae Jones	Advising	Region
Cindy Lewis	Student Affairs	Collier
Amber McCown	Student Recruitment	Lee
Dr. Tom Rath	Business and Technology	Region
Whitney Rhyne	New Student Programs	Lee
Denise Swafford	Testing Service	Lee
Dr. Martin Tawil	FYE/SLS	Lee
Milana Williams	Research, Technology, Accountability	Region



**Garnett Salmon**  
**Registrar & Cornerstone Instructor**

Excerpts from a few students' Cornerstone final essays;

*"I plan to take what I learned from the Cornerstone class and distribute it to my other classes and future classes."*

*"This course was great and taught me a lot about myself and my ability to set goals and accomplish them."*

This is what SLS 1515 is about, and I am truly honored to be able to affect students in such a positive way. Teaching this course has been a very rewarding experience.



Subcommittee: FYE Programming 2013-2014		
Committee Member	Department	Campus
Whitney Rhyne, Chair	New Student Programs	Lee
Helen Algernon	New Student Programs	Lee
Cindy Campbell	Library	Lee
Dr. Christy Gilfert	Student Affairs	Charlotte
Linda Johnsen	New Student Programs	Collier
Dr. Kevin Kennedy	Career Services	Lee
Cal Majure	Financial Aid	Lee
Crystal Maldonado	Student Leadership & Engagement	Lee
Tara Marion	Student Life	Lee
Kelly Newhouse	SLS	Collier
Jill Rhone	Admissions / Dual Enrollment	Lee
Fran Thomas	New Student Programs	Lee



Subcommittee: Training and Development 2013-2014		
Committee Member	Department	Campus
Dr. Rebecca Gubitti, Chair	Math	Lee
Stacey Brown	Health Sciences	Lee
Cindy Campbell	Library	Lee
Kathy Clark	Social Science	Collier
Dr. Eileen DeLuca	College and Career Readiness	Region
Mike Engdahl	Business and Technology	Lee
Thomas Rath	Business and Technology	Lee
Whitney Rhyne	New Student Programs	Lee
Melissa Rizzuto	Professional Development	Region
Martin Tawil	SLS / FYE	Lee
Thomas Turano	Professional Development	Lee
Myra Walters	Speech	Lee



**Myra H. Walters**  
**Chair of Speech and Foreign Languages**  
**Professor of Speech & Cornerstone Experience**  
**Founding faculty of SLS 1515**

Little did I know that my involvement as a Co-Chair for the Philosophy Committee of the College’s Foundation of Excellence Study conducted six years ago would ignite a passion in me to improve the overall educational experience for our students and lead me on a journey to improve the quality of the classroom experience for the students in my Cornerstone and public speaking classes.

After serving as a Co-Chair for the Philosophy Committee, I proudly agreed to serve on the QEP Task Force where the foundation was laid for the Cornerstone Course. Serving on the task force with a team of FSW staff, faculty and administrators to create this course was an awesome experience. I am very proud to have been a part of this Quality Enhancement Plan and the capacities in which I have served in as the first Curriculum Coordinator and as the first Lead Faculty for the Cornerstone Course. Today I continue to be involved by teaching the course, assisting with the design of the online Cornerstone Course and by serving as an active member of the QEP Marketing Committee.

The First Year Experience Program is even stronger today. More faculty, staff and administrators have completed the modules to become credentialed to teach the course. Peer Architects (Peer Mentors) have been trained and are a great asset to the program and to the students enrolled in the Cornerstone classes. Full-time faculty who teach in the program have been hired on all FSW campuses. This past summer, the first Associate Dean for the First Year Experience Program was hired. Now all first time in college students are required to take this course. And, if that is not enough to bowl you over, assessment data demonstrates that we are making an overall positive impact in the lives of our students!



*The best part of my first semester was my Cornerstone class. I feel like it kept me motivated when I would feel overwhelmed. Plus, it got me out and around campus to meet people.*

**Stephanie Smouk**  
Lee Campus

*My favorite thing about the Cornerstone Experience class is the group presentations. They had us come together to create something greater than we could have done on our own.*

**Timmy Smith**  
Hendry Glades Center

*Without my Cornerstone class, I would have dropped out of school already!!! Thank you so much for this experience!*

**Romea Chevrin**  
Lee Campus



*The best part of my first semester was the GPS Project. I was able to learn a lot about myself and the school.*

**Nikita Laws**  
Charlotte Campus



*I think the Cornerstone class should be implemented for all new students. It was very helpful, and both the professor and Peer Architect made this transition less stressful than I thought it would be. THANK YOU!!*

**Shirley Bonagura**  
Lee Campus

- Join a **QEP subcommittee and/or encourage faculty and staff in your department to join.** Visit <http://www.fsw.edu/fye/qep> to view the committees and meeting dates.
- Attend **Cornerstone Trainings** through the Teaching and Learning Center. Set departmental Cornerstone Module Training completion goals for faculty and staff. Encourage those who complete trainings to share, at department meetings, what they have learned. See current offerings; **additional trainings will be offered soon.** Visit <http://www.fsw.edu/trainingcalendar/display>
- Encourage students to participate in **campus events and activities.** Visit <http://www.fsw.edu/fye/events>
- Visit the **FYE Web page** <http://www.fsw.edu/fye/> and encourage students to sign-up to participate in the social media.

Connect with us via Social Media!

Username: FSW FYE



- In your departments, **adopt a “corner”** (Critical Thinking, Success Strategies, Applied Learning, Relevancy). Consider ways that your department can “partner” with the SLS 1515 course and to support one or more of the “corners.”
- Make the QEP/FYE Program a **standing item on department meeting agendas.** Invite FYE/Academic Success faculty and staff to lead presentations at department meetings.
- Consider **teaching the SLS 1515 course or volunteering** to lead a presentation in one or more SLS 1515 sections.
- **Give ideas to the QEP Implementation Team** on how this course can better support your department or program. Starting Fall 2014 all FTIC degree-seeking students will be required to complete the course.
- **Review the SENSE Survey** and the Benchmarks for Effective Practice with Entering Students. Visit <http://www.ccsse.org/sense/aboutsurvey/>
- **Review Florida Southwestern State College’s SENSE and CCSSE Results** from 2013-2014. Visit [http://www.fsw.edu/rta/reports/sense\\_ccsse](http://www.fsw.edu/rta/reports/sense_ccsse)



## First Year Experience

Florida SouthWestern State College is committed to providing an educational and working environment free from discrimination and harassment. All programs, activities, employment and facilities of Florida SouthWestern State College are available to all on a non-discriminatory basis, without regard to race, sex, age, color, religion, national origin, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation, marital status, genetic information or veteran's status. The College is an equal access/equal opportunity institution. Questions pertaining to educational equity, equal access or equal opportunity should be addressed to Title IX/Equity Officer, Florida SouthWestern State College, 8099 College Parkway, Fort Myers, FL 33919, (239) 489-9051.



