



The First Year Experience Community Update

April 2016
Volume 4 Issue 8

As we come to the close of our fourth year of implementation of the College's Quality Enhancement Plan, I am pleased to reflect upon what FSW has achieved from this college-wide effort. Since implementation, Academic and Student Affairs have enhanced their collaboration towards the goals of increasing student retention, progression, and college completion. We report on our progress towards these goals on a yearly basis (visit <http://www.fsw.edu/fye/qep/assessment> to review annual reports). The introduction of the Cornerstone Experience course and related first-year programming has set a foundation for development of critical thinking to achieve academic and career success. Some of the topics we ask students to think critically about include

- Information Literacy
- Selecting Majors and Occupations
- Time Management, Financial Literacy, and Goal Setting
- Note-taking and Test-taking Strategies
- Use of Academic Technology

Since the initial implementation, we have expanded the pathways for successful completion to include the development of online sections, linked courses, and special sections designated for Honors Scholars. Additionally, programming has been enhanced to include a "Critical Thinking in Careers" lecture series and a "Thinking Critical about Financial Literacy" workshop series. As we move into our fifth year of implementation, we will continue to explore ways to augment the relevance of the course such as through the creation of contextualized course sections for students indicating interest in particular meta-majors.

The successes detailed in the QEP annual report would not be possible if not for the college-wide efforts from faculty and staff. We should all be proud of what we have achieved through this effort.



Dr. Eileen DeLuca

Associate Vice President
Academic Affairs

Thinking Critically about Financial Literacy



The first week of March marked a week of financial literacy for Cornerstone students. In partnership with Suncoast Credit Union, we offered eight educational sessions across our four FSW service locations.

of student respondents "Strongly Agreed" or "Agreed" that the session increased their knowledge of the topic.

95.75%



"Very informative, I really enjoyed learning how to budget, what makes up a credit score, and how to manage debt." – FSW Student Participant

Cornerstone Students Help the Homeless

This fall, Cornerstone students raised over \$6,000 and donated over 1,000 items totaling more than \$7,500 worth of donations to help the homeless in our FSW service area. Students learned more about homelessness in our community through lectures presented by Renee Givens, Executive Director, of the Collier County Hunger and Homeless Coalition and Janet Bartos, Executive Director of the Lee County Homeless Coalition.

\$6,000

Dollars Donated

1,000

Items Donated



Cornerstone Experience Top Class Contributors

Names of each faculty member and assigned Peer Architect (PA) for the highest contributing classes appear below.

\$1,000+ Level

Professor Campbell's class with PA Nancy, \$1,700

\$500 Level

Dr. Rath, PA Faith

Professor Rhyne, PA Esteban

\$400 Level

Professor Newhouse, PA Marianna

\$300 Level

Dr. Harris, PA Delirys

Professor Day, PA Dominique

Professor Day, PA Sam

Dr. Otto, PA Mikey

\$200 Level

Professor Schultz, PA Ines

Professor Vanselow, PA Ines

Professor Newhouse, PA Mikaila

\$200 Level (continued)

Professor Rhine, PA Mikey

Professor Day, PA Faith

Professor Day, PA Tyler

Professor Day, PA Dominique

Dr. Towers, PA Delirys

Dr. Ward, PA Adele

\$100 Level

Professor Vanselow, PA Nancy

Professor Maguire, PA Jorge

Professor Newhouse, PA Michelle

Dr. Gillespie, PA Jorge

Dr. Gillespie, PA Marcello

Professor Schultz, PA Nancy

Professor Schultz, PA Ines

Professor Schultz, PA Ines



Presentation by Renee Givens, Executive Director, Collier County Homeless Coalition



Presentation by Janet Bartos, Executive Director, Lee County Homeless Coalition

Introduction to the Academic Schools Presentation Series

This academic year, each of **FSW's five academic schools** facilitated sessions introducing first-year students to programs, opportunities, and related course work in their academic schools and fields of study.



School of Education



School of Business and Technology



School of Pure and Applied Sciences

92.47% of respondents
"Strongly Agreed" or
"Agreed" that the topic
was interesting and
informative.



School of Health Professions

School of Arts, Humanities, and
Social Sciences



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