

From: [Longwood Academic Affairs](#)
To: [All Faculty, Staff & Contract Employees](#)
Subject: QEP Update
Date: Friday, February 18, 2022 8:36:59 AM
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Dear colleagues,

I am writing to update the campus community about progress on the selection of our next Quality Enhancement Plan topic.

Before I do that, some thank you's are definitely in order. First, I want to thank faculty and staff who participated in surveys, who engaged in impromptu discussions with colleagues about the topics, and who asked questions and provided input at a variety of meetings over the past several months. I also want to thank the members of the QEP Topic Recommendation Committee, including Waleed Ahmed, Mark Hamilton, Alison King, Chris Labosier, Jalen Lee, Jonathan Page, and Meg Meng. Their careful work in examining institutional data and campus community input has made this process productive and valuable.

The QEP Topic Recommendation Committee reviewed and discussed all of the data collected after the latest round of feedback sessions and survey results. The committee took care to highlight questions, concerns, and supportive statements about each topic. Based on community feedback, we sent forward five topics to the Reaffirmation Leadership Team (President Reveley, Provost Smith, Vice-President Waller, Dr. JoEllen Pederson, Dr. David Shoenthal, and myself).

Over the next few weeks, the Reaffirmation Leadership Team (RLT) will review institutional, national, and survey/feedback session data regarding each of the following five topics (in alphabetical order):

- Belonging
- Oral Communication
- Place-Based Learning
- Preparing for Post-Graduate Success
- Well-Being

In their review and continuing discussion, the RLT will consider how each topic addresses student retention. As noted in a previous email, institutional data indicate that student retention rates are not as strong as in 2016 and that Longwood is not retaining African American/Black and Hispanic/Latinx students at a consistent rate. As an institution, we are invested in supporting all students. The RLT will also consider how each topic includes broad-based involvement of institutional constituencies including faculty, staff, and students; reflects institutional needs and aligns with strategic priorities; affects a broad spectrum of Longwood students and a substantial number of students; and involves feasibility in terms of resources and assessment. On March 15, the RLT plans to meet for another round of discussions and to make a decision about the QEP topic.

I look forward to reporting more to you after the topic is identified.

Pamela Tracy, Ph.D
Director, Center for Faculty Enrichment
Professor, Communication Studies
Longwood University
201 High Street
Farmville, VA 23909
434.395.2803

