Wise Writes
Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP)

Presented by:
Tom Costa, Ph.D.
Chair, Department of History
Chair, QEP Committee
What is a QEP?

- Part of SACSCOC reaccreditation process
- Has a “high-impact” focus
- Input and engagement from all constituencies
- Opportunity to develop an action plan for success
Wise Writes

Improving Student Writing

✓ Focus primarily at the upper-level
✓ Enhanced Writing Center
✓ Supplemental instruction for students
✓ Faculty workshops and training
✓ Leadership - director and writing committee
✓ Assessment - how will we know if it’s working
✔️ Why upper-level?

- Students need focused attention after composition.
- Writing in the major is key to learning the subject.
- UVa-Wise seniors are writing less than peers (NSSE).
✔ Enhanced Writing Center
  • Move to a new location
  • Provide additional equipment and latest software
  • Additional personnel (incl. student mentors)
  • Enhance professional development for personnel
  • Hub for all Wise Writes activities
Supplemental instruction for students

- Workshops and tutoring
- Provided at all levels
- Evaluation detects weaknesses for targeted assistance
- Any faculty can recommend/require participation
Faculty workshops and training

- Faculty involvement is paramount
- College-wide discussions
- Development of departmental writing standards
- Broad-based workshops for all interested faculty
- Modifications of existing courses
- New writing-intensive courses
Leadership

• Knowledgeable director to coordinate plan
• Faculty committee to spread responsibilities
• Unified assessment process
• Sustainability
Assessment

Direct evaluation of improvement:
• Student papers
• Baseline: papers from 2014, 2015, 2016

Indirect evaluation:
• Survey student attitudes toward writing
• Survey faculty in workshops
• Number of faculty in workshops
• Number of modified courses
• Number of new courses
• NSSE data comparison
Expected Results

- Each department/major develops writing guide
- 50 + faculty in teaching writing workshops
- 12-18 new or modified writing-intensive courses
- Students writing more and longer papers (NSSE)
- Overall improvement in scoring rubric of .5-1 avg.
- Establishment of permanent writing program

And ultimately . . .

- Graduates better prepared for their futures

Wise Writes
### TIMELINE FOR IMPLEMENTING WRITING QEP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2015-16</th>
<th>2016-17</th>
<th>2017-18</th>
<th>2018-19</th>
<th>2019-20</th>
<th>2020-21</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>National search for Director of Wise Writes</strong>&lt;br&gt;Campus-wide faculty discussions&lt;br&gt;Departments create writing objectives and standards&lt;br&gt;Facilities assessment for Writing Center relocation (new library)**</td>
<td><strong>Director of Wise Writes chairs Writing Committee&lt;br&gt;Relocate Writing Center&lt;br&gt;Appoint Writing Center Facilitator&lt;br&gt;2 additional student tutor/mentors for Writing Center; 2 additional computer work stations for Writing Center&lt;br&gt;Develop supplemental instruction for students as needed&lt;br&gt;Offer paid faculty workshops (2)&lt;br&gt;Modify 2 or 3 major courses; Develop 2 or 3 new WI major courses (taught 2017-18)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Teach and assess WI major courses&lt;br&gt;2 additional student tutor/mentors for Writing Center; 2 additional computer work stations for Writing Center&lt;br&gt;Develop supplemental instruction for students as needed&lt;br&gt;Offer paid faculty workshops (2)&lt;br&gt;Modify 2 or 3 major courses; Develop 2 or 3 new WI major courses (taught 2018-19)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Teach and assess Year Two courses&lt;br&gt;2 additional student tutors/mentors for Writing Center; 2 additional computer work stations for Writing Center&lt;br&gt;Offer paid faculty workshops (2)&lt;br&gt;Modify 2 or 3 major courses; Develop 2 or 3 new WI major courses (taught 2019-2020)&lt;br&gt;Director submits interim report to SACSCOC</strong></td>
<td><strong>Teach and assess Year Three courses&lt;br&gt;Campus-wide faculty discussion on value of faculty workshops&lt;br&gt;Administer NSSE and FSSE&lt;br&gt;Assess QEP: participation, supplemental instruction referrals</strong></td>
<td><strong>Teach and assess Year Four courses&lt;br&gt;Overall evaluation of Wise Writes by the Director and Writing Committee</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Total additional student tutor/mentors for Writing Center = 6**<br>- **Total additional work stations for Writing Center = 6**<br>- **Total faculty participating in workshops = 48-60**<br>- **Total new or modified writing intensive courses = 12-18**
## Wise Writes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Budget Item</th>
<th>Annual Cost</th>
<th>5 Year Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DIRECTOR &amp; TRAVEL</td>
<td>$112,408</td>
<td>$562,040</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WRITING CENTER</td>
<td>17,080</td>
<td>85,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FACULTY WORKSHOPS</td>
<td>26,800</td>
<td>80,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASSESSMENT (INDIRECT)</td>
<td>38,468</td>
<td>178,920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FACULTY WAGE (ASSESSMENT)</td>
<td>12,720</td>
<td>63,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td><strong>$169,008</strong></td>
<td><strong>$791,440</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Questions?