UNO Faculty Senate Meeting, February 25, 2014
Innsbruck Rooms A-B, UC

1. Call to Order and Welcome
The meeting was called to order at 3:09 PM by Dr. Elaine Brooks.

2. Roll Call

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current roster of Faculty Senators</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>Rachel Kincaid</td>
<td>(13-14) Present</td>
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<tr>
<td>Staff Council</td>
<td>Derek Rodriguez</td>
<td>(13-14) Present</td>
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<tr>
<td>SG President</td>
<td>Brandon Bonds</td>
<td>(13-14) Absent</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alumni Assoc.</td>
<td>Dinah Payne</td>
<td>(13-14) Present</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adjunct</td>
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<tr>
<td>Business</td>
<td>Dinah Payne (SE)</td>
<td>(13-14) Present</td>
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<tr>
<td>Business</td>
<td>James Logan</td>
<td>(12-15) Excused</td>
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<tr>
<td>Business</td>
<td>Matt Zingoni</td>
<td>(12-15) Present</td>
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<td>Business</td>
<td>Cherie Trumbach</td>
<td>(11-14) Present</td>
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<tr>
<td>Business</td>
<td>Mark Reid</td>
<td>(13-16) Excused</td>
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<tr>
<td>Business</td>
<td>Christy Corey</td>
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<td>Business</td>
<td>Ivan Miestchovich</td>
<td>(13-16) Excused</td>
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<td>Education</td>
<td>Richard Speaker (SE)</td>
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<td>Education</td>
<td>Zarus Watson</td>
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<td>Education</td>
<td>Polly Thomas</td>
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<td>Education</td>
<td>Matt Lyons</td>
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<td>Education</td>
<td>Paul Bole</td>
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<td>Engineering</td>
<td>Enrique La Motta (SE)</td>
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<td>Malay Ghose Hajra</td>
<td>(12-15) Excused</td>
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<td>Nikolaos Xiros</td>
<td>(12-15) Excused</td>
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<td>Engineering</td>
<td>Dimitrios Charalampidis</td>
<td>(13-16) Excused</td>
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<td>Liberal Arts</td>
<td>Steve Striffler (SE)</td>
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<td>Liberal Arts</td>
<td>Robert Montjoy</td>
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<td>John Kiefer</td>
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<td>Christine Day</td>
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<td>Liberal Arts</td>
<td>Elaine Brooks</td>
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<td>Peter Yaukey</td>
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<td>Liberal Arts</td>
<td>Beth Blankenship</td>
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<td>Liberal Arts</td>
<td>Connie Atkinson</td>
<td>(11-14) Present</td>
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3. Approval of minutes from the 1/27/14 meeting:
Ms. Connie Phelps moved and Mr. Derek Rodriguez seconded to approve the minutes of the 1/27/14 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Announcements from the Faculty Senate President (Dr. Brooks):

a) Dr. Brooks stated that because Faculty Senate had been so busy since November, we have had to table voting on the bylaws. She encouraged everyone to reread the bylaws revisions, which will be discussed and voted on at the March meeting.

b) Dr. Brooks announced that the Faculty Welfare Committee will be charged with doing a faculty survey on morale and welfare. Dr. John Kiefer from the Committee added that the Committee had spoken about creating a short survey on the most important things that the Faculty wants the Committee to pursue.

c) Dr. Brooks read from a Department of Foreign Languages announcement on its International Conference AIZEN/University of New Orleans on “Emile Zola and Naturalism,” (see Appendix 1), which will take place at UNO from March 6-8, 2014. People will be coming from around the world. We can go to the Foreign Languages website for more details.

d) Dr. Brooks read the email that the Faculty Senate Executive Committee sent President Fos the past Wednesday about the draft of a proposal to establish a Faculty Governance Committee (see Appendix 2). The memo was well received, but there is a lot to do put it in place, including how to manage the committee, policies, logistics, and membership. Dr. Fos responded that he approved such a committee and suggested that someone from Research and Sponsored Programs be a member. This is an ongoing process, as we have to continue to work together as a UNO community to make the changes necessary and involve faculty in shared governance.
5. **Update on Faculty Council Resolution of February 14, 2014 and other issues (President Peter Fos):**

President Fos read his response to the Faculty Council resolution (see Appendix 3), handing a copy to Dr. Brooks and Ms. Phelps. Dr. Brooks asked Dr. Fos if he wanted to discuss what he had said at the morning’s University Council meeting. Dr. Fos replied that the Provost had come to him on Tuesday asking to step down on March 14 and be assigned to two very important tasks. First, to do the Louisiana Grad Act report, which was 66 pages long last year and shepherded and mostly written by the Provost. It is most important this year because of the Governor’s executive budget proposal allowing institutions to keep their Grad Act monies. Outside reviewers gave us 100 last year; we were one of three schools receiving the highest rating. Secondly, to do the narrative for the SACSCOC compliant certification document. Provost Payne had also asked if he could maintain the title of Provost since he was doing job searches. After talking to his bosses in Baton Rouge and consulting with the Faculty Senate Executive Committee, Dr. Fos agreed to the request. His bosses in Baton Rouge suggested that he hire Dr. Rich Hansen as Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs. Dr. Hansen agreed to come and will begin probably March 10 or 11. This was very well received by the UL System Office and the Board of Regents. Dr. Hansen is very calm and easy to work with, and he will be a very different Provost. Dr. Fos will start a search for a permanent Provost sometime in March, and he will ask Dr. Brooks for faculty members for the search committee. Ideally, there will be a new Provost by April 2015 when SACS comes.

Dr. Fos referred to the meeting with the Faculty Senate Executive Committee, and he was very happy with the proposal that came from that committee. He never had the intention not to have shared faculty governance and will try to do things bottom up. But we are not going back to how it used to be. We need to look at efficiencies, make the workload better, and do evaluations, but he wants the faculty to help him decide how to do it.

Dr. Polly Thomas thanked Dr. Fos for listening to us, and Dr. Fos responded with a thank you. He wants to hear what we have to say as he was not hearing it before. He emphasized that he will definitely be a better President going forward, which was followed by a round of applause.

6. **WISE Report (Ms. Rachel Kincaid, Vice-President of External Affairs):**

Ms. Kincaid discussed the 2014 Legislative Agenda (see her WISE Fund Overview, Appendix 4 and PowerPoint, Appendix 5). She and Dr. Fos have been working very hard on the proposal, with three aggressive outcomes. She also passed out a copy of a Letter to Governor Jindal from Higher Education Leaders re the Workforce and Innovation for a Stronger Economy (WISE) Plan, signed by all 46 public college presidents in the state. She anticipates UNO’s allocation to be somewhere between $2.3 to $2.5M. Each plan would have an industry partner. There is list of 4- and 5-STAR jobs in the “Legislative Agenda” document, but it is really the campus’ decision on which ones to focus; the larger the degree production, the bigger the share. The plan is currently just for the public universities.
There was a question from the gallery if it included oil-industry jobs; Ms. Kincaid replied yes. Dr. Thomas expects that Ms. Kincaid will keep us informed on what the bill number is and when we can email using our private emails. Ms. Kincaid said that it was from House Communications and, so far, there has been no push-back at all. Someone else from the gallery asked if Dr. Kincaid could describe how she envisions the implementation. That is one of the things she is working on now. They would like to have these policies done first, mindful of the pitfalls from the Grad Act, but proposals are to come from the campus.

Dr. Vern Baxter asked why our legislative goal is to have the same state funding as last year when we have lost so much in the past. Why ask for level funding? Ms. Kincaid responded that their goal was to maintain Grad Act funding and create additional funds. They are going to be sitting down with the gubernatorial candidates and talk about funding. She wishes that it could be more. They will be asking new administrators to include it in their platforms. In response to Dr. Tu Shengru’s question, Ms. Kincaid said that our goal is to have more funding. Dr. Christine Day asked Dr. Kincaid if she finds that current legislators and current government are aware that Governor Blanco’s funding was based on pre-Katrina. Ms. Kincaid replied yes, they remember it very well, but it is very difficult for them to give UNO an extra 10% without the other schools in the system being affected.

7. **QEP (Quality Enhancement Plan) Report (Dr. Donna Dickerson, Executive Director, The Graduate School):**

Dr. Brooks announced that there will be an open forum on March 20 in KH122, sponsored by the Faculty Senate and the Graduate School.

Dr. Dickerson explained that we are in the process of preparing the reaffirmation for SACSCOC. There are two parts: One is the compliance report led by Drs. Bill Sharpton and Leslie Culver; the second part is the Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) (see her PowerPoint, Appendix 6). The definition by SACS of QEP: “Focused plan of action that enhances student learning.” It is a very broad definition because it recognizes the entire student. We need to be mindful of the urban mission of the University. The Steering Committee for SACS also established some criteria for UNO. SACS does not care about how big the QEP is, so we have to be mindful of budget limitations and try to leverage the resources that we have. Implementation is for 2016, and she is hoping to have a topic by the middle of April. The written plan has to be 75 pages with 25 pages of appendices, is due to SACS in February 2015, and would be approved in December 2015 along with the UNO reaffirmation. Dr. Dickerson mentioned the names of members in the Topic Selection Committee and added that the easiest way to get to the website is from a link on the Faculty/Staff Resources page to the QEP page. There is a “Suggest a Topic” button with a very short Qualtrics survey. Some suggested topics are included, but the plan is to submit ideas of our own; there are just three topics from faculty groups so far. If we are not comfortable doing it in the survey, we can send her an email, give her a call, or write it on a napkin. The more topics, the better choices from which to choose. The main question: If there is anything that you could do to improve student learning at UNO, what would it be? As soon as the topic is selected in April, another committee will be put together to write the plan, calling upon those with expertise in what the topic will be.
8. Committee reports:

Evaluation of Administrators—Evaluation of Dean Sharon Mader and Dean Steven Johnson (Dr. Brooks):

Dr. Dinah Payne, Ms. Phelps, and Dr. Brooks will be working on the Qualtrics Surveys of the evaluations of Deans Sharon Mader and Steven Johnson. The evaluations will be sent out sometime between March 15 and March 30, and it all needs to be completed by May.


Ms. Phelps reminded everyone that at the Faculty Council meeting on Valentine’s Day [February 14], there was an interest in having another Faculty Council meeting. A proposed meeting is tentatively set for Tuesday, March 11 in the afternoon, and she will send out more information. There are two things on the agenda: Dr. Andrew Goss’ proposal to shift the authority of some committees to the Faculty Council and the proposed Faculty Governance Committee since it reports to Faculty Council.

11. Adjournment.

A motion to adjourn was moved by Ms. Beth Blankenship and seconded by Dr. Richard Speaker. The meeting adjourned at 4:17 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Marie Morgan
Faculty Senate Secretary, 2013/14
March 14, 2014

APPENDIX 1 (Department of Foreign Languages announcement on the International Conference AIZEN/University of New Orleans on “Emile Zola and Naturalism”):

Emile Zola and Naturalism Conference - Dear colleagues and friends,

It is our pleasure to announce that the program of the International Conference AIZEN/University of New Orleans on “Emile Zola and Naturalism” (March 6-8, 2014) is now posted on our website, at the following address:

http://www.ualberta.ca/~aizen/events/

AIZEN- International Association for Multidisciplinary Approaches and Comparative Studies related to Emile Zola and his time, Naturalism, Naturalist Writers and Artists, Naturalism and the Cinema around the World
During Spring Break 2014, the UNO College of Liberal Arts and the Department of Foreign Languages will co-host the International Conference on Emile Zola and Naturalism (March 6-8, 2014, right after Mardi Gras). Dr. Juliana Starr, Associate Professor of French, is the Chief Organizer and other sponsors include Center Austria, the Diversity Committee. Professors Olivier Bourderionnet in Foreign Languages and Hamp Overton in film are members of the organizing committee.

The sessions will be held on the second floor of the University Center, the opening cocktail will be at the UNO main campus art gallery and will feature "Southern Women at Work", a photography exhibit in conjunction with the conference, a film screening of the Louisiana feature "Low and Behold" will be in the Robert E. Nims Theater in the PAC, the banquet will be a river cruise on the Steamboat Natchez, and there will be an optional tour of Laura Plantation. 110 participants will be coming from 19 different countries including the USA, Norway, Portugal, Brazil, France, Germany, Austria, Canada, Switzerland, India, Lebanon, Tunisia, Finland, China, Senegal, and Japan. Most participants will be lodging at the Hampton Inn in the CBD, but approximately 25 graduate students will be lodging in the TRAC building on the UNO main campus.

13 people associated with UNO will be presenting papers: 3 faculty in Foreign Languages, 3 faculty in Film Studies, 2 faculty in English, 2 faculty in History and Women’s Studies, 2 graduate students in English and 1 former graduate student in Foreign Languages. All UNO faculty and students, as well as the general public, are invited to attend the sessions for free.

APPENDIX 2 (Faculty Senate Executive Committee memo to President Fos re a Faculty Governance Committee):

Dear Peter,

The Faculty Senate Executive Committee met today and discussed a number of issues pertinent to the departure of the Provost. One very strong sentiment that was expressed was the idea that we greatly value the initiatives developed by the Office of Academic Affairs regarding a variety of issues. As a result, the Executive Committee developed a proposal for better shared governance between administration and faculty.

The Faculty Senate Executive Committee has proposed the establishment of the Faculty Governance Committee under the authority of the Faculty Council. This Committee is to be charged with the ongoing efforts, initiated by the Office of Academic Affairs, in the areas of program evaluation and review, performance evaluation, workload policy and unit restructuring.

We have determined membership of this committee to represent primarily faculty. As such, we constitute the committee to include all members of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee, the Officers of the Faculty Council and the members of the Faculty Senate Academic Freedom, Tenure and Professional Ethics Committee.

Additionally, we value chair and administrative faculty knowledge and insight; thus, we have determined to include two Deans and one Chair to be invited to join with the faculty in the commission of these efforts of this committee. We propose to include the Dean of the College of Education, the Interim Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and the Chair of the English Department.

While this is a proposal that awaits acceptance by all of the Officers of the Faculty Council, we have confidence that this proposal will go forward. As we greatly value your leadership in the efforts to
facilitate truly effective shared governance, we would value your recommendations for additional members of this Committee. Please let me know, at your earliest convenience, who you would recommend as being pro-active, positive influences on the formation of our own recommendations regarding program evaluation and review, performance evaluation, workload policy and unit restructuring.

Thank you for your continued good faith efforts to lead this University to the great heights our students deserve: we appreciate your efforts on our own behalf and especially on behalf of our students.

Elaine S. Brooks
Faculty Senate President

APPENDIX 3 (President Fos’ response to Faculty Council resolution of February 14, 2014):
Date: February 24, 2014

To: Faculty Council

From: Peter J. Fos, Ph.D., M.P.H. President

Re: Response to Resolution

I appreciate receiving the resolution from the Faculty Council passed on Friday February 14, 2014. I can sense the passion, dedication, and commitment of the Faculty Council for the University of New Orleans in the resolution. I commend the work of the Faculty Senate Academic Freedom, Tenure and Professional Ethics Committee in developing the resolution which was passed by the Faculty Council. I particularly agree with the words "Without increasing the number of students and improving student retention, the university will not be able to solve its budget problems."

I have decided the following: further development and implementation of policies will stop immediately and will begin very soon after I am ensured that formal faculty involvement occurs through working with the Faculty Senate.

I feel that we must continue to work on the policies which have been under discussion for the past several months to identify efficiencies which do not affect accepted pedagogy. In effect, I have decided to lengthen the time horizon for instituting needed policies and policy changes. I did wish to include all policies that have been under discussion in our collective future discourse.

I welcome input and advice for all parties, especially for faculty through the Faculty Senate.

Cc: Dr. Elaine Brooks
APPENDIX 4 (Ms. Kincaid’s WISE Fund Overview):

WORKFORCE AND INNOVATION FOR A STRONGER ECONOMY (WISE) FUND

- Collaboration between higher education, economic development, and workforce commission
- Strategically aligns $40 million of NEW investment in higher education with emerging economic growth sectors
- Incentive fund is IN ADDITION to state base funding and tuition revenues
- Distributed competitively via defined performance measures:
  - 20% - Federal research expenditures
  - 80% - Degree production in 4- and 5-STAR jobs as indicated by the LA Workforce Commission include:
    - Computer Science
    - Construction Crafts
    - Data Analytics
    - Education
    - Engineering
    - Finance and Accounting
    - Healthcare
    - Industrial Production
• Requires 20% industry match to spur private investment in colleges and universities
  o New partnership between higher education and private industry to produce graduates with high-demand degrees, and enable students to link their coursework to projected workforce demands
  o Match could include scholarships, value of internships, in-kind contributions, facilities, equipment, software, technology and cash

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?
• Creates a dedicated source of funding for higher education
• Multi-year commitment by the state to invest in higher education
• Spurs research innovation
• Unprecedented combination of education pipeline, workforce demand, and outcomes based funding
• Makes Louisiana a leader in the country in performance-based incentive funding tied to state policy for workforce initiatives
• Recognizes higher education’s role in growing Louisiana’s economy

PROPOSED BILL LANGUAGE:
• Would establish a NEW FUND in the state treasury as a special fund
• DIRECTS the state treasurer to deposit funds at the beginning of each fiscal year
  o Funds are treated the same as state general fund
  o Unexpended and unencumbered funds at year end are “rolled over”
• Funds are IN ADDITION TO all other funds allocated to higher ed
• Louisiana Board of Regents and the higher education management boards shall distribute the funds
• Funds will be monitored by the Chair of the Louisiana Board of Regents, Presidents of each System, Secretary of Louisiana Economic Development, and Executive Director of Louisiana Workforce Commission

APPENDIX 5 (Ms. Kincaid’s PowerPoint):
2014 Legislative Agenda

2014 Legislative Session: March 10 – June 2

Desired outcomes:
- Maintain level of support for UNO from State General Fund ($32 M)
- Allow UNO to retain revenue attributable to tuition increases authorized by LA–GRAD Act ($4.6M)
- Establish and fund new account in state treasury to incentivize workforce development partnerships between public higher ed and private industry ($2.5M)
2014 Legislative Agenda, cont.

Workforce and Innovation for a Stronger Economy (WISE) Fund:

- Gov. Jindal includes $40 million in his proposed budget for this purpose and plan has support of LA higher education leaders (joint letter).
- Awarded competitively based on federal research expenditures (20%) and degree production in targeted sectors (80%).
- Requires universities to identify 20% private sector match (facilities, internships, scholarships, equipment, etc.)
WORKFORCE AND INNOVATION FOR A STRONGER ECONOMY (WISE) PLAN

Examples of 4– and 5–STAR jobs:

• Computer Science
• Construction Crafts
• Education
• Engineering
• Finance and Accounting
• Healthcare
• Industrial Production

This DOES NOT de–emphasize the importance of liberal arts and other degrees.
WORKFORCE AND INNOVATION FOR A STRONGER ECONOMY (WISE) PLAN

Proposal from higher education and supported by all 46 statewide public universities and community colleges

Strategically aligns $40 million of NEW investment in higher education with emerging economic growth sectors

Distributed competitively via defined performance measures:
  • 20% – Federal research expenditures
  • 80% – Degree production in 4– and 5–STAR jobs as indicated by the LA Workforce Commission

Requires 20% industry match to spur private investment in colleges and universities
WORKFORCE AND INNOVATION FOR A STRONGER ECONOMY (WISE) PLAN

Proposed bill language:

• Establishes a NEW FUND in the state treasury
• Directs state treasurer to deposit funds at beginning of each fiscal year
• Funds are IN ADDITION TO all other funds allocated to higher ed
• LA Board of Regents and management boards shall distribute the funds
• Funds will be monitored by Board of Regents, Higher Ed Systems, LED, and LWC

APPENDIX 6 (Letter to the Governor re the Workforce and Innovation for a Stronger Economy (WISE) Plan.):

Letter to Governor Jindal from Higher Education Leaders

APPENDIX 6 (Dr. Dickerson’s PowerPoint):
Quality Enhancement Plan

Focused plan of action that enhances student learning

*SACS defines student learning broadly: knowledge, skills, abilities, behaviors, attitudes
SACS Criteria for the QEP

- Linked to University’s Mission
- Significant Impact (Transformative)
- Measureable Outcomes
- Capacity to Implement
- Broad-based involvement of the University

UNO’s Criteria for the QEP

- Not continue last QEP
- Budgetary Limitations: Leverage Current Resources
  - Ex: Brown Grant (Service Learning)
  - Ex: WISE Funding (Workforce Initiative)
- Relate to our urban mission
- Involve Academic and Student Affairs
- Include Innovations in Pedagogy
**QEP Time Line**

- **April 2014:** Topic Selected and Approved
- **February 2015:** Plan due to SACS (75 pp + 25 pp appendices)
- **Evaluated by an External Evaluator**
- **April 2015:** On-site Review Team will “quiz” us on the QEP
- **Before Leaving UNO:** On-site Review Team makes recommendation to accept, revise or reject QEP.
- **December 2015:** UNO is reaffirmed and QEP is approved
- **Fall 2016:** Begin implementation

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**Topic Selection Process (Spring 2014)**

- **QEP Topic Selection Committee**
- **Web Page**
  - FAQs and other resources
  - Link to QEPs at other universities
  - Schedule for QEP presentations to various groups
  - “Suggest a Topic” button will take you to a survey
- **Meetings and Open Forums**
- **Solicitation of topics through web**
- **Evaluation of topics against SACS and UNO criteria**
How to Participate

- Entire campus is invited to participate in forums
- Everyone is invited to submit QEP topics (April 1) at a meeting, by e-mail, or survey on website, napkin…
- Topics will be evaluated against a rubric that includes both the SACS and UNO criteria

Answer the Question

If there is one thing you could do to improve student learning at UNO, what would it be?
Suggested Topics to Date

- Global Citizenship
- General Education Reform
- Qualitative Reasoning
- Professional Communication Skills
- Engaged Learning in the Community
- Sophomore Year Experience
- Hazard and Disaster Resilience

The Survey

Thank you for taking time to provide feedback about the topics for UBC’s Quality Enhancement Plan 2015-2020. We are in need of your input in order to narrow down a list of topics developed by the QEP Topic Selection Committee. Below you will find a list of 7 potential topics. Please rank the topics in terms of how important they are to the University’s mission, student learning, and student experiences. Then, if you think, suggest your own topic.

For additional information, please contact Dr. Onnea Dickerson at onnea.dickerson@ubc.ca

Q1

Q2

The following topics have been identified by the Topic Selection Committee as having potential impact on student learning and student experiences at UBC. Please rank them with 1 being the least important topic for the QEP, or “I” being the most important topic for the QEP.

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<td>Effective Professional Communication Skills</td>
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<td>Community Engagement through Service Learning</td>
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<td>Global Citizenship</td>
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<td>Engaged Learning in the Community</td>
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<td>Sophomore Year Experience (SYE)</td>
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Q3

Recognizing that the above topics may overlap with each other, do you have any suggestions for any topics that might overlap with two or more of the above suggestions?

Q4

What other topics do you feel have potential impact on student learning and experiences at UBC that have not been mentioned above?

unanswerable
http://www.uno.edu/quality-enhancement-plan/