

III | NORTHWESTERN STATE

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QEP: Experiential Learning

Purposes of Forum

- To promote awareness of QEP
- To review progress to date, including QEP proposal
- To introduce
 - ∞ Definition of experiential learning
 - ∞ High impact educational practices
 - ∞ Eight principles of experiential learning
- To receive feedback

What is a Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP)?

- An action plan for improving student learning
- An opportunity to enhance institutional quality and effectiveness
- A requirement of the SACSCOC reaffirmation process
- An integral part of the mission statement and strategic framework

QEP Progress to Date

- QEP Steering Committee consisted of 10 members (6 faculty members, 1 staff member, & 3 students)
- Committee met four times, beginning in December 2014, and presented findings to University community (March 2015)
- Survey administered to faculty, staff, students regarding potential QEP topics during April 2015

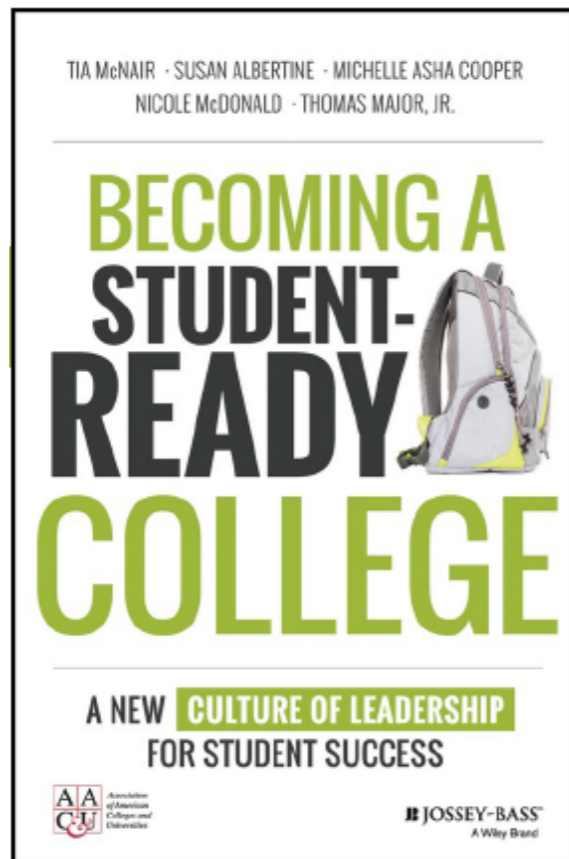
QEP Application

(Submitted December 2015)

- Design
- Summary
- Aligned to NSU mission and strategic framework
- Included SLOs, strategies, and budget
- Concerns

Critical Questions

What is a student-ready college?



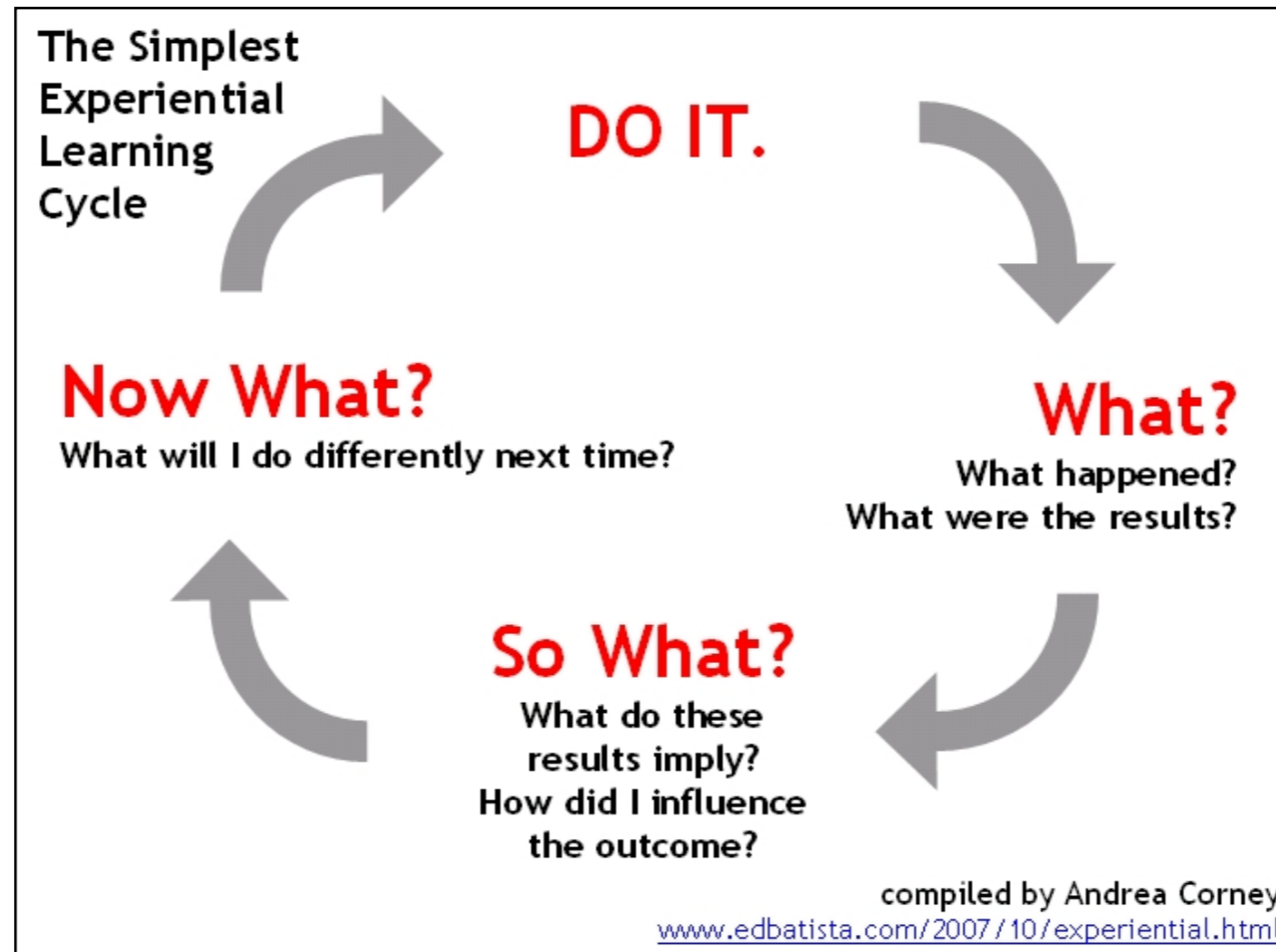
(A paradigm shift)

How do we make experiential education student-ready?

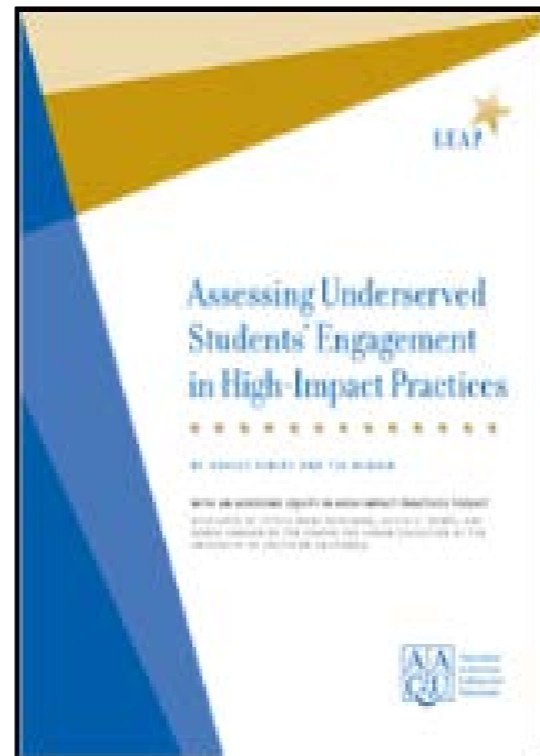
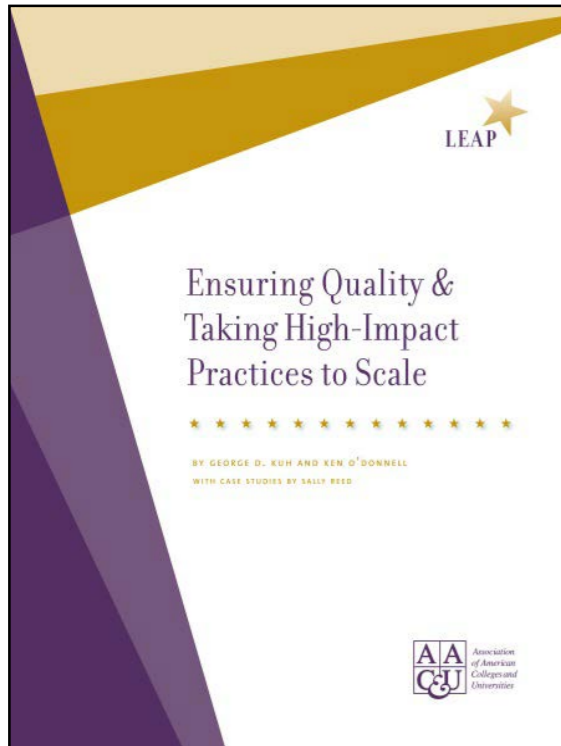
Utube Video: "I Choose C" (Job Interview)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dY2mRM4i6tY>

“Learning through reflection on doing”



High-Impact Practices



- First-Year Seminars & Experiences
- Common Intellectual Experiences
- Learning Communities
- Writing-Intensive Courses
- Collaborative Assignments & Projects
- Undergraduate Research
- Diversity/Global Learning
- Service Learning & Community-Based Learning
- Internships
- Capstone Courses & Projects

Eight Principles of Experiential Learning

1. Intention
2. Preparedness and Planning
3. Authenticity
4. Reflection
5. Orientation and Training
6. Monitoring and Continuous Improvement
7. Assessment and Evaluation
8. Acknowledgment

College Learning and Career Success

Key findings from survey among 400 employers and 613 college students (AAC&U, 2014)

Employers: more likely to consider hiring recent college graduates who have completed an applied learning or project-based learning experience

- 94%** *Internship/apprenticeship*
- 87%** *Senior thesis/project*
- 80%** *Collaborative research project*
- 69%** *Service learning project*

Attributes employers seek on a candidate's resume

Attribute	% of respondents
Leadership	80.1%
Ability to work as a team	78.9%
Written communication	70.2%
Problem-solving skills	70.2%
Verbal communication skills	68.9%
Strong work ethic	68.9%
Initiative	65.8%
Analytical/quantitative skills	62.7%
Flexibility/adaptability	69.9%
Technical skills	59.6%
Interpersonal skills	58.4%
Computer skills	55.3%

Source: Job Outlook 2016, National Association of Colleges and Employers

Feedback

You will receive an email from Ms. Veronica Biscoe requesting your participation in a survey on Experiential Learning.

Please respond. Your feedback is very important in determining NSU's QEP.

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