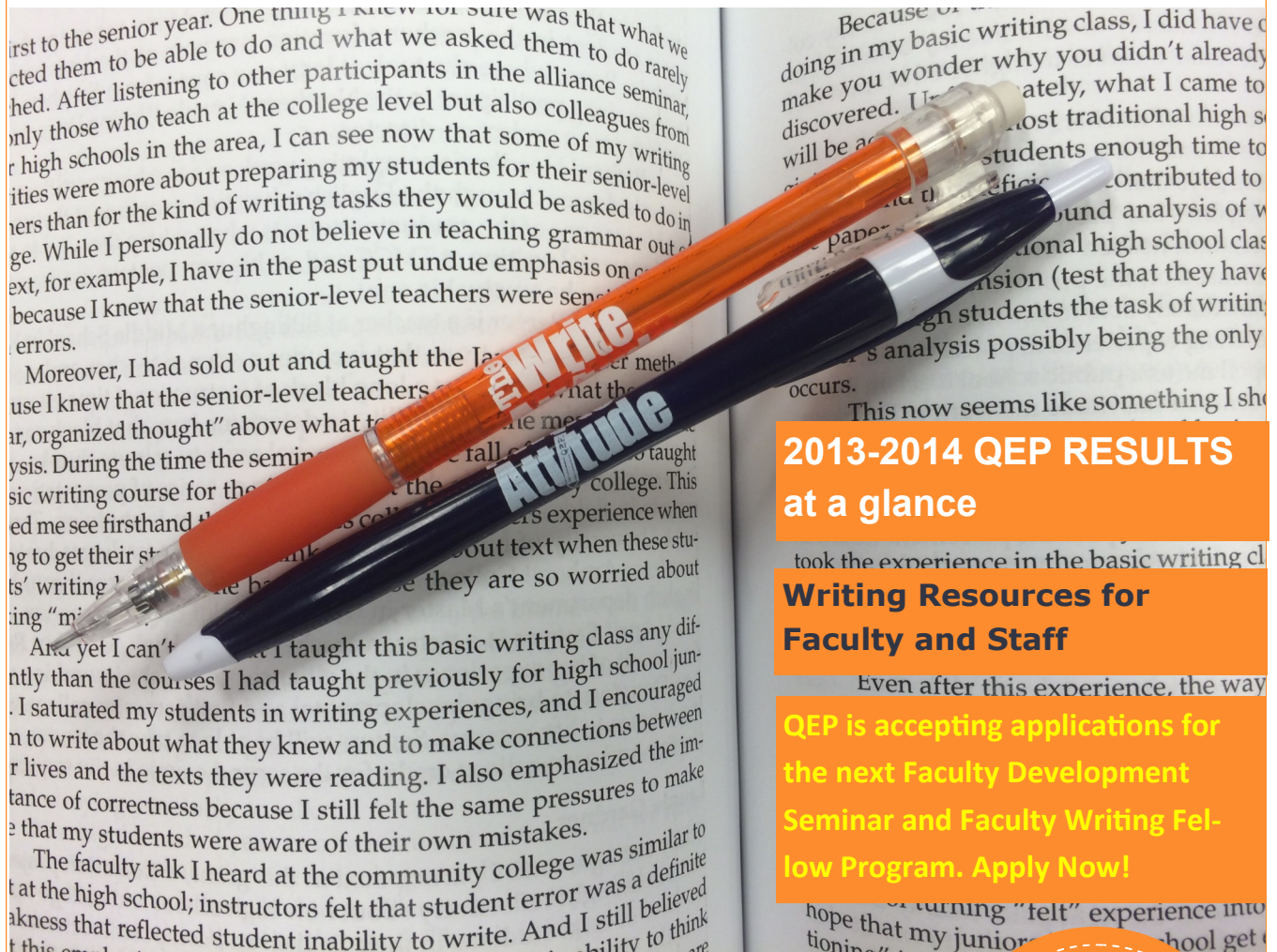


The Write News

**SSU FACULTY & STAFF
ONLINE NEWSLETTER**



**2013-2014 QEP RESULTS
at a glance**

**Writing Resources for
Faculty and Staff**

**QEP is accepting applications for
the next Faculty Development
Seminar and Faculty Writing Fel-
low Program. Apply Now!**

**and much
more
inside!**

**The Write
Attitude**
SSU Quality Enhancement Plan

The Write News

**SSU FACULTY & STAFF
ONLINE NEWSLETTER
Spring 2014/Issue 2**

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*Apply Now for 2014-2015***

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The Write News is a means of keeping Faculty and Staff abreast of important information, programs and events related to writing.

The Write News is an online newsletter brought to you each semester.

The Write News is part of **The Write Attitude**, which is the **Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP)** at Savannah State University. It is a campus-wide initiative to enhance student learning by improving attitudes about writing.

The **QEP** is required by SACS (Southern Association of Colleges and Schools), the regional accrediting body for colleges and universities in the southeast.

Your commitment is essential for the success of the QEP and our students!

Visit qep.savannahstate.edu and contact us at qep@savannahstate.edu

Become a Faculty Writing Fellow and help our students improve their writing skills at the SSU Writing Center

**APPLY NOW FOR
2014-2015**

What is a Faculty Writing Fellow?

Faculty Writing Fellows (FWFs) are faculty members that log hours at the SSU Writing Center to assist students with their writing (a minimum of 75 hours for the term).

What does a FWF do?

FWFs primarily work with students in their disciplinary area of expertise, but are available to help any student in need.

FWFs conduct research on best practices in pedagogy and writing instruction in their discipline, and deliver one QEP Faculty Development Workshop to share their findings.

What are the Requirements?

This is a paid position. In order to be considered, you must be recommended by your department chair or dean.

How do I apply?

Click here.

If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Lisa Yount at yountL@savannahstate.edu or 358-3328

THANK YOU!

We would like to sincerely thank our 2013-2014 FWFs for their dedication to helping our students improve their attitudes about writing.

Dr. Adegboye Adeyemo

COST, Chemistry

Professor Sandra Earley

CLASS, Mass Communications

Dr. Mir Hayder

COST, Engineering

Dr. Dustin Michael

CLASS, English

Professor Marlene Seidman

CLASS, Fine Arts

Professor Maliece Whatley

COBA, Accounting



QEP

www.qep.savannahstate.edu

SSU Writing Center

www.savannahstate.edu/class/writing-center/

QEP is accepting applications for the next Faculty Development Seminar.

Have you applied yet?

“The Write Attitude” Faculty Development Seminar is an 8-week instructional program led by Dr. Lisa Yount. It is designed to teach the best practices in pedagogy and writing instruction across the curriculum.

Candidates are chosen based on their support of QEP initiatives and willingness to enhance student learning through writing.

Participants participate in surveys, implement additional writing in their classrooms, give a brief presentation on their teaching experiences, and assess activities over three semesters.

Along with the skills and pedagogical knowledge afforded by the seminar, participants also receive an honorarium for their efforts.

Applications are due Friday, May 16, 2014.

Six participants representing various academic units on campus will be selected.

Areas covered during this seminar include:

- ✓ How to motivate students' critical thinking and knowledge comprehension through writing
- ✓ How to design effective writing assignments for your particular course/discipline
- ✓ High- and low-stakes writing. Which is best for certain assignments and skill attainment?
- ✓ How to give student feedback that balances content with correctness
- ✓ Creating assignment instructions that enable students to grasp what it is you want from them
- ✓ Productive peer review
- ✓ How to manage the grading load efficiently and effectively

If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Lisa Yount at yountL@savannahstate.edu or 358-3328



**Faculty
Development
Seminar**

Dr. Katherine Stewart
CLASS, Social & Behavioral Sciences

“First, I want to say that I thoroughly enjoyed the experience and wish I had completed such a workshop as early as my second year working as a new faculty member. While the text and materials used in the workshop are great, the best part for me was the discussion. [...] Hearing suggestions/examples of how others address [the] same issues was enlightening.

[Dr. Yount] as a facilitator is much more than just a fountain of knowledge. The delivery of the material was like an invitation to change, grow, and critique one’s professional performance. The invitation was a challenge and a learning experience rather than a threat or criticism. I have more revisions in mind and the tools/resources to develop better assignments.”

Dr. Suman Niranjana
COBA, Operations Management

“Teaching writing in a quantitative class is a challenge. But I learnt that it can be done. I felt that the learning process from faculty members of other disciplines was the best part of the seminar.”

Professor Nicholas Silberg
CLASS, Fine Arts

“Since I am a Program Coordinator, these skills will be helpful in creating meaningful assessment tools for writing throughout the Fine Arts program.”

Dr. Geoff Bowden
CLASS, Political Science & Public Affairs

“I thought the seminar was well-structured and the time was used wisely. The scaffolding discussions helped me think about new ways to approach the barriers students may have in the writing process. I also found the rubric discussion helpful. I’ve never used them, so it gave me ideas about how to use them effectively.”

Professor Linda Samuel
CLASS, Social Work

“This was a very rewarding experience for me that I know will enhance my teaching and hopefully provide a better learning experience for my students. This seminar should be mandatory the second year for all junior faculty.”

Professor Teresa-Michelle Walker
CLASS, Theater

“I learned a lot that I will apply to my courses. I want to develop my rubrics and assignments to consider the issues that were discussed in the course. This way my students will have clear understandings.”

Testimonials

2013-2014 QEP RESULTS at a glance

Grammar Extravaganza Workshops

Total Workshops: 29
Total Hours: 48
Instances of Participation: 338

Essay Writing Workshops

Total Workshops: 30
Total Hours: 50
Instances of Participation: 451

QEP Student Surveys

Total Surveying Sessions: 247
Total Surveys Completed: 5,300

Senior Student Focus Groups

Total Focus Groups: 10
Total Hours: 10
Total Participants: 96

Student Writing Contests

Total Contests: 11
Total Winners: 39

Lunch and Learn Series

Total Events: 7
Total Hours: 10.5
Instances of Participation: 198

On-Campus Writing Events for Students

Total Events: 43
Total Hours: 76.5
Instances of Participation: 2,073

Off-Campus Writing Events for Students

Total Events: 2
Total Hours: 4
Total Participants: 36

2013-2014 QEP RESULTS at a glance

Faculty Development Workshops

Total Workshops:	7
Total Hours:	10.5
Instances of Participation:	43

Faculty Development Seminar

Total Hours:	108
Total Participants:	6

2013-2014 QEP GRAND TOTAL

QEP Activities: **987**

Hours of QEP Activities: **1,280**

Hours of Student participation and involvement in any QEP activity, project, program, or event: **970.75**

Hours of Faculty & Staff participation and involvement in any QEP activity, project, program, or event: **1,081**

Instances of Students participating and getting involved in any QEP activity, project, program, or event: **9,123**

Instances of Faculty & Staff members participating and getting involved in any QEP activity, project, program, or event: **80**

Faculty Writing Fellows

Faculty Writing Fellows:	6
Total Hours (SSU Writing Center):	825
Total Tutoring Sessions:	592

Faculty & Staff Participation in Writing-Related Conferences/Events

Total Conferences/Events:	8
Total Hours:	137.5
Instances of Participation:	18

Savannah State University's 4th Annual Research Conference and RIMI Symposium

Enhancing our students' research and communication skills

The Savannah State University's 4th Annual Research Conference and RIMI Symposium was held on April 8th, 2014, and explored the theme "Creating Change While Seizing the Future." The Quality Enhancement Plan was privileged to co-sponsor the event for a third year, helping to provide students with an important platform for their research.

Approximately 170 SSU undergraduate and graduate students presented research in engineering, management and marketing, biology, marine science,



chemistry, mathematics, political science, and social work.

All student projects were eligible for awards. Presentations were judged by both faculty and community partners. The event sought to enhance student research and communication skills and to prepare them for careers in the global marketplace. The experience stimulated the interest of student, faculty, and community members in the area of research.

The Savannah State University Annual Research Conference and RIMI Symposium is designed to shape our students' academic and professional lives.

UNDERGRADUATE

Biology:

Shanice Caldwell (Senior)
Mr. James McCusker
(Rensselaer Polytechnic
Institute)

Chemistry:

Marion Johnson (Senior)
Dr. Adegboye Adeyemo
(Savannah State University)

Engineering:

Patrick Dean, Jr. (Sophomore)
Dr. Asad Yousuf
(Savannah State University)

Environmental Science:

Jennifer Colley (Junior)
Dr. Hua Zhao
(Savannah State University)

Management & Marketing:

Benjamin Schwengel (Senior)
Dr. Suman Niranjana
(Savannah State University)

Marine Science:

1st Place:
Elijah J. Ferguson (Junior)
Dr. Tara Cox
(Savannah State University)

2nd Place:
Eric Parks (Senior)
Drs. Selena Heppell and
Matthew Ramirez
(Oregon State University)

Mathematics:

Vanda Johnson (Junior)
Dr. Hyounkyun Oh
(Clemson University)

Political Science & Public Affairs:

Robert Dickensheets (Senior)
Mr. Daniel Stowers
(City of Savannah)

Social & Behavioral Sciences:

China Brown (Senior)
Dr. Cecil Jones
(Savannah State University)

GRADUATE

Marine Science:

1st Place:
Sarah Ramsden
Dr. Mary Carla Curran
(Savannah State University)

2nd Place:
Mike Scaboo
Dr. Chris Hintz
(Savannah State University)

Social Work:

Jared Campbell
Evelyn Denard
(Savannah State University)

Semaj Grant
Dr. Shinaz G. Jindani
(Savannah State University)

Delores D. Liston
Dr. Shinaz Jindani
(Savannah State University)

Leslie E. Weir
Dr. Shinaz Jindani
(Savannah State University)



QEP - Related Conference Presentations

“Assessing College Students’ Attitudes toward Writing: The Writing Disposition Scale”

Presenter: Dr. Lisa Yount, QEP Director
Location: Eastern Educational Research Association, Sarasota, FL
Date: February 21, 2013

“Symposium on Measuring the Affective Domain Using Thurstone Belief Scales, the Bloom and Krathwohl Taxonomy and Rasch Measurement”

Presenter: Dr. Lisa Yount, QEP Director
Location: Eastern Educational Research Association, Sarasota FL
Date: February 21, 2013

“The Metalanguage of Visual Humor: A Digital Pedagogy for Promoting Higher Order Thinking Skills in Freshman Composition”

Presenter: Dr. Nat Hardy, Graduate Studies Director
Location: 9th Annual Southeast Coastal Conference on Languages and Literatures, Savannah, GA
Date: March 29, 2012

“Harvesting and Laboring: Bodies for Sale in Harvest”

Presenter: Dr. Jenni Halpin, Department of English, Languages, and Cultures
Location: British Commonwealth and Postcolonial Studies Conference, Savannah, GA
Date: February 14, 2014

Title: “Code Switching in the Business Communications Classroom: A Case Study”

Presenter: Dr. Rebecca Setliff, College of Business and Administration
Location: Association for Business Communication: Southwest Regional Conference, Dallas, TX
Date: March 12, 2014

QEP - Related Conference Attendance

2013 Institute on Quality Enhancement and Accreditation (SACSCOC)

Daytona Beach, FL; July 21-24, 2013
Participants:

Dr. Lisa Yount, QEP Director
Ms. Dee Dee Botticelli, Administrative Assistant to the QEP Director

2013 Assessment Institute

Indianapolis, IN; October 26-29, 2013
Participant: Dr. Lisa Yount, QEP Director

2013 SACSCOC Annual Meeting

Atlanta, GA; December 7-10, 2013
Participants:
Dr. Lisa Yount, QEP Director
Dr. Michelle Hernandez-Perez, Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences
Ms. Dee Dee Botticelli, Administrative Assistant to the QEP Director

If you are interested in traveling to a conference that is related to writing, the Office of the QEP may be able to assist with expenses. To learn more, [click here](#).

Association of American Colleges and Universities General Education and Assessment Conference

Portland, OR; February 27-March 1, 2014
Participant: Dr. Lisa Yount, QEP Director

Mid-Atlantic Writing Center Conference

Salisbury, MD; April 4-5, 2014
Participants:
Dr. Melanie Goss, Writing Center Director
Ms. Tawauna Dixon, Writing Center Coordinator

14th Annual Student Success in Writing Conference

Savannah, GA; April 4, 2014
Participants:
Dr. Bernard Bongang, Chair of Political Science and Public Administration
Dr. Dustin Michael, Department of English, Languages, and Cultures
Dr. Lisa Yount, QEP Director
Ms. Dee Dee Botticelli, Administrative Assistant to the QEP Director
Ms. Adriana de Oliveira, QEP Communications Coordinator

Writing Resources for Faculty and Staff:

Click on the links below and watch informative videos on student writing.

The Plagiarism Spectrum: Tagging 10 Types of Unoriginal Work

Based on results from a survey of nearly 900 secondary and higher education instructors, this webcast provides an overview of 10 types of plagiarism and helps students recognize incorrect uses of source material.

[Click here](#)

What's Wrong with Wikipedia? Best Practices for Evaluating Student Sources

This video focuses on recent finds regarding student research practices, and presents SEER—Source Educational Evaluation Rubric, a tool designed to evaluate the credibility of websites.

[Click here](#)

Peer Editing and the Writing Process

This audiovisual highlights peer editing and the writing process as ways of promoting students effective communication in writing and developing their love of learning.

[Click here](#)

Closing the Gap: What Students Say About Instructor Feedback

This webcast presents the results of a survey of 1,000 students on how instructor feedback impacts the development of student writing.

[Click here](#)

Source: turnitin.com

We kindly thank our Community Partners

- ◆ Savannah Book Festival
- ◆ Savannah Black Heritage Festival
- ◆ The Deep Center
- ◆ Seersucker Live

... and our Lunch & Learn Series Presenters

- ◆ Trelani Duncan, Self-Published Author
- ◆ Chief Charles Middleton, Fire Chief, Savannah Fire & Emergency Services
- ◆ Danah Qutob, Technical Writer, Gulfstream Aerospace
- ◆ Lady Mahogany, DJ at 94.1 The Beat and Director of Blessing in a Book Bag
- ◆ Krystal Hart, MPA, Public Relations Manager, City of Hinesville
- ◆ Wanda Lloyd, SSU Professor & Mass Communications Chair
- ◆ Karen Bogans, Communications Manager, International Paper

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