

Summary of TASL Workshop IV

Dr. Margaret Sullivan, Director of The Consulting Network for SACS, was the featured speaker for the fourth TASL Workshop held September 23, at the main campus of Central Texas College (CTC). The main talking points included

- The Role of Faculty in Developing and Acceptable QEP
- Important Components of the QEP
- Writing Good Student Learning Outcomes
- What Happens after the Reaffirmation Visit
- Issues Surrounding Errors, Misjudgments and Assumptions

Participants were given multiple opportunities to collaborate with each other and to interact with Dr. Sullivan and Dr. Pate regarding the topics of the workshop. The favorite activity of workshop participants was the “QEP Puzzle”. In this activity, participants worked in small groups to arrange cards on which one component of a “good” QEP was printed. There were many cards, representing each section and its components of a Quality Enhancement Plan.

Other important points of the workshop include:

- It is very important (and advisable) to use multiple methods of assessment for student learning outcomes in each major or program.
- Pre and post test can be used, but multiple tests will provide gain scores to compare.
- All measurement does not have to result in a grade each time.
- Departmental exams should not be a part of a student’s grade.
- Surveys are useful supplements.
- Projects, portfolios and rubrics are highly recommended.
- Evaluate the QEP every year.
- You can narrow the focus of the QEP from year to year.
- SACS is looking for program outcomes in addition to course outcomes.