QEP Student Focus Group
November 15, 2018 / 12:30 p.m.

Dr. Russell Howton thanked the group for giving their time to assist the College in the development of the QEP. He explained to the group the focus and purpose of the QEP and a little about the proposed topic.

A total of 37 students from across BSCC's four campuses and instructional site participated in a student focus group discussion via IITS technology. The student demographics break down as follows:

- 97% were traditional students (younger than 24)
- 48% freshman / 52% sophomore status
- 100% were full-time students
- Students major ranged from BIO, BUS, EED, EGR, ELT, GS, IT, NUR, PPR, SAL, SED

Although the focus group experienced technical difficulties, valuable feedback was obtained and is outlined below.

- It was determined that some instructors do not utilize Canvas for any portion of their course. Students believe a course outline, announcements, grades, etc. should be available in Canvas and when the calendar content changes, it should be updated accordingly.
- On one instance, an instructor did not provide a course outline until 3-4 weeks in to class and has yet to provide any graded materials to the class although the students have submitted homework and have taken tests.
- Most students do not feel as if they possessed the necessary study skills when enrolling at BSCC. Although one student said as a college student, it is the student's responsibility to "grow up" and take responsibility for their success, it would be helpful if faculty could take an active role in assisting students by providing outside instructional materials (class powerpoints, videos, etc.).
- Students would like to see tutors available in all subject areas, not just MTH and ENG (it was noted that the area of science was particularly needed….BIO, CHM, PHY, etc.)
- Some students who visit the tutoring labs believe that better communication needs to exist between faculty and student tutors. Apparently, in some cases, the tutors are not addressing the same topics and materials that the instructor is lecturing on in class, so we need to ensure that the tutors are communicating effectively with the instructors on the curriculum and subject matter being taught in the classroom.
- Some campuses have a limited number of hours that tutors are available while other campuses have tutors available for most of the day.
- When asked about whether instructors sharing objectives at the beginning of each class would assist the students in learning the material for the day, a student suggested that the objectives be published as part of the content in Canvas. This will allow them to view before and after the class meets.
- When asked to describe the contents of their ideal "student success center," some students mentioned library, tutoring services, snack machines, etc.

As additional developments are made with the QEP, campus focus groups may need to be reconvened to gather feedback from students.