



UPCOMING EVENTS

*** Working with Your Student Activists: Ways to Establish Inclusive Dialogue, Positive Relationships and a Safe Campus When Activism Arises (WEBINAR) September 21 1:00-2:30 PM**

*** Move Beyond Civility: How to Facilitate Difficult Dialogues in the Classroom (WEBINAR) September 27 1:00-2:30 PM**

See back page for more events

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A World Class Experience

SEPTEMBER 2016

2015-2016 QEP Recap

Welcome to the third year of Delta State University's Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP)!

While the rest of this newsletter focuses on new and continuing components of QEP implementation, let's get a snapshot of what DSU accomplished in 2015-2016.

First Year Seminar (FYS)

Implementation of cultural competency objectives continued in all FYS courses with Chinua Achebe's *Dead Men's Path* and two Global Perspective Inventory (GPI) administrations. Participation rates remained steady.

General Education Courses

Seven of ten selected gen ed

courses reported QEP outcomes in 2015-2016 — a significant increase from 2014-2015.

Upper-level Courses

Five upper-level courses reported QEP outcomes in 2015-2016. This was another large improvement.

Extracurricular Events

QEP sponsored over forty extracurricular events in 2015-2016 building on a QEP strength from 2014-2015. Second year highlights included:

- U.S. Poet Laureate Natasha Trethewey
- Winning the Race Conference
- *Muslim/American, American/Muslim* photography exhibit,

artist visit, and event series

- Gender Studies Group brown-bag lunch series

- *Of Ebony Embers: Vignettes of the Harlem Renaissance*

Faculty & Staff Development

QEP provided DSU faculty and staff members with development opportunities including continued Safe Space and LGBTQ sensitivity sessions which began in 2014-2015.

I'm looking forward to another year of progress by DSU's talented faculty and staff and our great students!

- Michelle Johansen

QEP Coordinator

Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Advocacy (IDEA) Lunches



IDEA Lunches are a new way for students, faculty, and staff to improve cultural competency at DSU through communication, collaboration, and engagement.

September's lunches on Monday the 19th and Tuesday the

20th are called "What's in a Label?" The sessions are designed to engage students in rational and critical discussions in regards to the impact of labels on individuals and groups in society. IDEA is co-sponsored by the Diversity Committee.

Lunch is available to the first 40 registered participants (DSU faculty, staff, and students).

Scan the QR Code to register now.



Summer Travel—Discover and Learn



Dr. Reza and DSU students in Lublin, Poland.
Photo credit: Rory Doyle

During the summer months, the QEP sponsored five students, one staff member, and four faculty members' trips to improve cultural competency and intercultural communication skills at Delta State.

In May, four students, Scottie Willis, Katherine Jackson, Maria Belisario, and Paxton Stratton, DSU faculty member Dr. A.H.M. Ali Reza, and

DSU photographer/writer Rory Doyle travelled to Poland for a two week cultural exchange trip hosted by John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin (KUL) in Lublin, Poland.

Dr. Rebecca Hochradel and Cetin Oguz travelled to San Diego State University in June as Japan Studies Institute (JSI) Fellows. JSI is a two-week intensive course

about the study of modern Japan and how to incorporate Japanese studies into courses on college campuses.

In July, Dr. David Baylis and DSU student Gunter McCourt participated in Camp Pride, a summer leadership camp for LGBTQ and ally student leaders and professionals working with LGBTQ students on college campuses in Charlotte, NC.

Hometown Teams:

How Sports Shape

America will be exhibited at

Chadwick-Dickson

Field House from

September 29 to

November 11.

History Movie Nights Are Back!

In conjunction with Delta State hosting the Smithsonian Institute's *Hometown Teams: How Sports Shape America*, Phi Alpha Theta and QEP will co-sponsor three FREE movie nights.

First up on September 27 in Jobe Auditorium at 7 pm is "Ghosts of Ole Miss," a 30 For 30 documentary from

ESPN.

From EPSN: In the fall of 1962, James Meredith walked onto the University of Mississippi campus and integrated the school under order and protection of the federal government. That same fall, the Ole Miss football team was in the midst of its only perfect season in school his-

tory. Fifty years later and based on Wright Thompson's examination of those events, "Ghosts of Ole Miss" explores the intersection of one of the most significant moments in the Civil Rights movement with a team of young men caught in the middle of history.

Refreshments will be served.



Margaret Block, Civil Rights Activist

Photo credit: SPOHP

"In Remembrance of Margaret Block, Civil Rights Movement

Organizer: Voting Rights, Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow"

On September 8, the Samuel Proctor Oral History Program (SPOHP) at the University of Florida returns to DSU.

A highlight of this year's trip will be a public history panel and book signing co-sponsored by QEP and the Diversity Committee at the Capps Archives Building

Seminar Room at the campus of Delta State University at 6:30 pm.

The theme of this panel is: "Voting Rights, Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow." The event will honor the memory of Ms. Margaret Block, an organizer of the Student Non-

violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) in Bolivar County in the 1960s and a life-long human rights activist.

This event is free and open to the public.

Cultural Competency in the Classroom

Implementation of the QEP got rolling during the spring 2016 term. Over **400** DSU students completed seven QEP-tagged general education courses and five QEP-tagged upper-level major courses.

The fall 2016 semester will reach even more students with ten general education courses and fourteen upper-level major courses taught with cultural competency and intercultural communication

objectives and instructional methods.

By the end of spring 2017, the QEP implementation in the classroom will be near completion with every degree program participating.

Kudos to the faculty and staff! Whether you are teaching a QEP-tagged course or independently incorporating cultural competence

threads into your classrooms, you are the engine of the QEP. Your efforts make a difference in our students' lives. Thank you!



65% of 2015 GPI participants said they rarely or never participated in events or activities sponsored by groups reflecting a cultural heritage different than their own while in high school.

Global Perspective Inventory (GPI) - Improve

The Global Perspective Inventory (GPI) goes live on September 1. The New Student Form link will be open from September 1 to September 23.

Please encourage all your freshman students to complete the GPI and to enter their 900 numbers.

The GPI is **important**—data collected will help Delta State

better understand the new students' backgrounds and create programming responsive to students' needs.

The GPI is **confidential**—answers collected by the GPI will be used by Delta State for cultural competency programming and SACSCOC accreditation purposes. Individual students will not be

singled out based on their answers.

The GPI takes **20 minutes**. Students can access the GPI on their mobile devices using the provided link.

Every student completing the GPI will receive a thank you gift **and** will be entered into drawings for fun prizes including gift cards. Students must enter their 900 numbers to be eligible.

Cultural Competency Resources

WEBINAR RESOURCES:

- *Racial Tensions on Campus: How to Overcome Resistance and Encourage Inclusivity on Your Campus*
- *Racial Climate Programs: Campus Strategies for Success*
- *Microaggressions: Strategies*

to Improve Your Campus Climate and Community

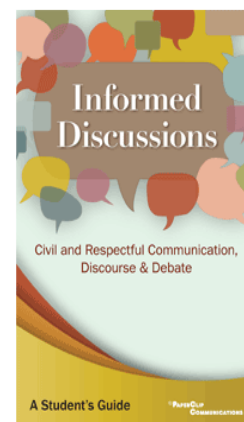
- *Beyond LGBTQ: Supporting the Spectrum of Sexual and Gender Identities of Your Students*

CLASSROOM RESOURCES:

- *Informed Discussions: Civil and Respectful Communication, Discourse and Debate in the Classroom (Faculty Guide)*

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- *Informed Discussions: Civil and Respectful Communication, Discourse and Debate in the Classroom (Student Guide)*—sets available for any size



What is DSU's Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP)?

From the Executive Summary: Through a lengthy institutional-wide effort, Delta State University has identified improving cultural competence as its next QEP topic. While several themes received praise and attention, cultural competence distinguished itself as a timely and relevant topic. Improving cultural competency at Delta State will assist students in discovering and learning about other cultures; understanding cultural biases and differences; improving intercultural communication skills; developing empathetic skills; and moving effectively within a globalized society. As the literature suggests, working in an increasingly multicultural society and global economy takes more than just simple interaction. Cultural competence is not innate and cannot be assumed; by taking full advantage of its location's rich history, and bountiful cultural resources, DSU plans to be proactive in improving its students' worldview.

For more information, please contact Michelle Johansen at mjohansen@deltastate.edu.



A World Class Experience
IMPROVING CULTURAL COMPETENCY AT DELTA STATE
2014 - 2019 5-YEAR QUALITY ENHANCEMENT PLAN

QEP Sponsored Events in September

- Thursday, September 8— University of Florida Oral History Event @ 6 pm @ Capp Archives
- Thursday, September 8—Levitt Amp Cleveland concert — Jack Henry @ 7 pm @ downtown Cleveland
- Tuesday, September 13 — Levitt Amp Cleveland concert — Chambless and Muse @ 7 pm @ downtown Cleveland
- Monday, September 19th— IDEA Lunch “What’s in a Label?” @ 12-1:15 PM @ Union 2nd Floor West Lobby
- Tuesday, September 20th — IDEA Lunch “What’s in a Label?” @ 12:15-1:15 PM @ Union 2nd Floor West Lobby
- Wednesday, September 21 — Working with Your Student Activists: Ways to Establish Inclusive Dialogue, Positive Relationships and a Safe Campus When Activism Arises (WEBINAR) @ 1:00-2:30 PM **Certificates for portfolios for all attendees.**
- Thursday, September 22 — Levitt Amp Cleveland concert — Future Thieves @ 7 pm @ downtown Cleveland
- Tuesday, September 27 — Move Beyond Civility: How to Facilitate Difficult Dialogues in the Classroom (WEBINAR) @ 1:00-2:30 PM **Certificates for portfolios for all attendees.**
- Tuesday, September 27 — History
- Movie Night “The Ghosts of Ole Miss” @ 7 pm @ Jobe Auditorium
- Tuesday, September 27 — Levitt Amp Cleveland concert — Sgt. Pepper’s Lonely Bluegrass Band @ 7 pm @ downtown Cleveland

Scan the QR Code to register for September WEBINARS

