



In 2009, King was reaffirmed in its accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC). As part of the reaffirmation process, colleges and universities were requested to implement a sustainable initiative designed to improve student learning. This initiative, known as the Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP), offers institutions of higher learning the opportunity to self-identify, and subsequently bolster, key issues central to their core and mission.

In 2007, King faculty and staff identified the effective use of language in oral and written communication as its thematic focus for improvement. The components of King’s QEP on communication are not isolated pockets of concern; King’s QEP theme of communication was addressed through projects conducted by varied sources on campus including academic departments and student support services.

As a result of the success of the first QEP, King is shifting attention this academic year to developing the process for the modified, revised QEP in preparation for campus-wide implementation and for Compliance Certification in 2018.

In 2014, King faculty and staff voted to continue focusing on oral and written communication. The new QEP initiative involves all King students on all platforms, campuses, and methods of delivery. Students in all programs will take one class designated as a “Q Class,” which will require that they complete a short research paper and accompanying oral presentation. The new QEP will build upon the success of the previous plan by focusing more deliberately on written and oral communication in the disciplines.

Ultimately, King’s mission of leading meaningful lives of achievement and cultural transformation in Christ signifies the relevance of the QEP to the institution. With its focus on communication, King’s QEP underscores the institution’s basic mission of interweaving faith, learning, service, and career, each of which benefits from—and depends upon—effective communication at many levels.

Additionally, the desire of the institution that its students produce *cultural transformation in Christ* requires an emphasis on particular and effective communication to achieve full and lasting effect. The institution’s statement of identity, as part of its Mission and Vision, suggests that King graduates will be “stewards of God’s creation, agents of peace and justice, lovers of truth and justice, creators of beauty, and servants of reconciliation.” These characteristics, all of which require sound communication skills, are brought to light by the intentionality of the QEP.

King positions itself as a missional university that prepares students to engage the world. Therefore, faculty, staff, and students are committed to the belief that communication skills are vital to this endeavor. The institution’s mission statement, then, sets broad parameters within which the QEP operates: students should be effective as scholars and persons, acting as agents of transformation of their societies for the good. Equally, the ability to communicate effectively and clearly is paramount to the identity and future success of King graduates.