### Quality Enhancement Plan Quick Reference Guide

#### FOCUS

- The purpose of TEAM USA is to improve student learning by increasing student critical thinking and collaborative skills through the utilization of Team-Based Learning in STEM courses.
- TEAM USA is aligned with the University’s mission to “apply knowledge in service to the people of Alabama as citizens of a global community” and also with goal #1 of the University’s strategic plan, “To build upon the academic quality and learning environment of the University.”
- Student learning outcomes are specific to each STEM class and designed around course content and higher order thinking skills as defined by Bloom (1956). For example: Students will differentiate among syntax (compile-time), execution (run-time), and logical (output) errors.
- In each STEM course, there are no less than 3-5 student learning outcomes that incorporate higher-level thinking skills (Analysis, Synthesis, and Evaluation).
- Professors will establish assessment targets for student learning outcomes that represent appropriate levels of mastery.
- TEAM USA is based on a review of literature and best practices including social learning theory, social interdependence, constructivism, collaboration, critical thinking, Team-Based Learning and the impact of Team-Based Learning in STEM courses.

#### INVOLVEMENT

- USA engaged all appropriate campus constituencies including faculty, staff, students, community members, alumni and administrators in identification of the topic and development of the plan.
- There was an agreed upon process for topic development and selection, with a call for proposals and scoring rubric.
- Topic development and selection was vetted through aLeadership Team, Concept Development Committee, Implementation Team and Advisory Council.
- Campus forums to solicit input were conducted with the cooperation of the student government association on the main campus and Baldwin campus to move TEAM USA forward.
- Students, faculty, administration, community members and alumni were involved in project design.
- Several committees, with a total membership of 77, were utilized in the concept development, topic selection, project implementation and project delivery phases of the plan.
- A content consultant and Team-Based Learning expert was involved in the design and implementation of the project.

#### CAPACITY

- USA allocated sufficient resources and provided an on-going commitment to implement, sustain and complete TEAM USA.
- USA has allocated 1.4 million dollars in cash and in-kind to TEAM USA.
- The institution has provided a clear, precise and viable implementation plan with timelines, objectives, actions, person(s) responsible, resource allocation and an assessment schedule.
- The implementation plan is organized around logistics, faculty induction, professional development and assessment. It also includes the renovation and use of a TEAM USA classroom and Advisory Council activities.
- TEAM USA personnel include a full-time Quality Enhancement Plan Director a part-time student assistant, and support provided by an administrative assistant, the Innovation in Learning Center Director, the Faculty Development Services Director, and the IRPA Director of Assessment.
- TEAM USA has an organizational structure with a chain of command. The Quality Enhancement Plan Director reports directly to the Senior Vice-President for Academic Affairs.
- Roles and responsibilities of TEAM USA personnel are detailed in the management plan.
- All aspects of the implementation plan support improvements in student learning.

#### ASSESSMENT

- There are means for assessing the success of TEAM USA including the identification of relevant internal and external measures to evaluate the plan.
- Assessments are connected to each student learning outcome and project administrative objectives.
- Assessments are integrated into USA’s annual assessment program both as an administrative unit as well as an academic effort.
- There is an internal system for evaluating TEAM USA and monitoring its progress.
- The assessment plan describes how the results of the evaluation of TEAM USA will be used to improve student learning.
- Formative and summative internal and external assessments with direct and indirect measures are found in the TEAM USA assessment plan.

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**Improved Student Learning and Success in STEM Disciplines**

**Higher Levels of Critical Thinking and Problem-Solving Skills**

**Enhanced Collaboration and Communication**

**Real-world Application of Content**

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