QEP topics should be submitted using this form and address each question below:

1) What QEP topic are you submitting? (5-10 words)
Guiding student inquiry

2) What is UWG currently doing in this area relative to student learning?
UWG currently focuses on fostering student curiosity and guiding student inquiry, especially through student research. Undergraduate research is presented and celebrated each year in the Big Night event. In addition, most majors include a senior capstone course in which students undertake a major research project.

Guiding student inquiry is a topic that applies both to undergraduate and graduate education, as students progressively become more independent in formulating their questions, researching those questions, and then presenting their findings. Faculty who engage in their own research and creative production are good models and guides for students beginning in the same enterprise.

3) How does this topic relate to the UWG strategic plan and/or assessment data?
Guiding student inquiry is consistent with the strategic plan’s vision of offering programs that balance the liberal arts with professional preparation. By placing student inquiry at the center of its educational enterprise, UWG emphasizes students’ responsibility for their education and places its confidence in their ability to do so.

Departments often use senior research projects or artistic works as important assessment instruments to determine what their student know and can do. A student research project can serve as a masterpiece showing the student’s mastery of the knowledge and skills taught in the program and valued in the working world.

Topic submissions will be posted to www.westga.edu/qep

Please submit all topic ideas (no later than Oct 1, 2010), to gep@westga.edu