**Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) Annual Report: May 31, 2014**

The 2013-2014 academic year is the fourth year of UTHealth’s Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP), a requirement for reaffirmation of accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC). The major goals for this year included:

* revising, especially in light of the mid-point assessment, the various courses and programs previously developed or enhanced as a part of the QEP;
* strengthening and/or creating new face-to-face interprofessional learning activities relating to the QEP; and
* continuing to prepare the Impact Report for SACSCOC (specifically by drafting an outline of the report).

All of these goals have been achieved. The mid-point assessment was especially helpful in this regard, as it (1) demonstrated improvement in the major areas of the desired student learning outcomes; and (2) indicated areas for further improvement.

A few accomplishments of the QEP are particularly noteworthy. A series of talks was given by Dr. Steven Miles, whom Dr. Spike and Dr. Benedict (co-directors of the Program in Interprofessional Ethics)

invited from the University of Minnesota Medical School. Dr. Miles is one of the world’s leading bioethicists. At UTHealth, Dr. Miles lectured on various topics (such as gun violence from an epidemiological perspective) in classes for students at the School of Public Health, the School of Dentistry, and the Medical School as well as at the Methodist Hospital Bioethics Grand Rounds. His lectures were well attended and well received.

Additionally, the collaborations with the Museum of Fine Arts-Houston continue to be fruitful. This year, a new art class was offered to medical students where they were taught how to draw by a professional artist; this course was offered as a follow-up to the Art of Observation. The Art of Observation, now offered to dental and medical students, continues to go well; this year Dr. Flaitz presented on the course at both the American Dental Education Association and the UT System Innovations in Education annual conferences— both presentations were well received. Also at the School of Dentistry, Dr. Shepard’s students (from his Ethics in Dentistry course) submitted a video for the national Student Ethics Video Conference of the American Dental Association, and they won first place.

Another noteworthy accomplishment of the QEP involves the launching of a health humanities postdoc program through the McGovern Center for Humanities and Ethics. For the 2013-2014 academic year, the McGovern Center supported a postdoctoral fellow to enhance the teaching of the McGovern Center; Dr. Benjamin Saxton served in this capacity. For the 2014-2015 academic year, Dr. Claire Clark will serve in this capacity. Dr. Clark plans on creating a health science center-wide book club for both students and faculty.

The McGovern Center is currently searching for an additional postdoctoral fellow to begin in the 2014-2015 academic year.

Also, the QEP, while focused on student learning, continues to promote scholarly productivity and interprofessional collaboration across UTHealth. Dr. Rozmus (School of Nursing), for example, published an article in *Medical Science Educator* based on data collected from the QEP, and Dr. Boisaubin (Medical School) has drawn on the efforts of the QEP to renew a multimillion dollar CTSA grant.

The primary goals for next year include:

* implementing program changes based on the mid-point assessment;
* conducting the final/end-point assessment; and
* preparing the final draft of the Impact Report for SACSCOC.

There is collective agreement among members of the Academic Council (the primary group overseeing the implementation of the QEP) that UTHealth remains on task with regard to the QEP as the due date for the SACSCOC interim report approaches.

Drafted by Dr. Nathan Carlin on May 1, 2014 Approved by Dr. Thomas Cole on May 14, 2014 Approved by the Academic Council on July 25, 2014