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David J. Silva

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SERVING AS A QUALITY ENHANCEMENT PLAN (QEP) EVALUATOR: NOTES FROM A NOVICE

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For those seeking ways by which they might serve more knowledgeably and effectively as members of their institution's leadership team—particularly when it comes to issues of institutional assessment and effectiveness—I strongly recommend active participation in any aspect of the accreditation/reaffirmation process, including serving as a member of an accreditation or reaffirmation on-site review committee. Having recently completed my first such experience for the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) (more specifically, as the Quality Enhancement Plan [QEP] evaluator), I can report that I was professionally educated and enriched on several fronts. Hoping that I might be able to provide future reviewers with some useful beyond-the-facts insights regarding the experience, I have agreed to relate my experiences here.

DISCLAIMER

It is important to make clear from the outset that what I have chosen to present in this essay reflects my own experiences as a first-time SACS reviewer and, as such, is unabashedly autobiographical in nature. Moreover, my technical knowledge as a reviewer

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