December 23, 2008

Dear Xavier Community,

As many of you know, Xavier University is currently preparing for our decennial reaffirmation of accreditation by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. This year, the reaccreditation process entails a new component – the Quality Enhancement Plan or QEP. The QEP must be a campus-wide initiative intended to improve student learning. In the fall of 2008, the University formed a QEP Design Committee that surveyed faculty, students, and staff for potential QEP topics. We appreciate the numerous responses we received in this preliminary survey, the results of which can be found here. Some of the most popular options included:

- Campus Facilities
- Critical Thinking
- Out-of-Classroom Environment for Student Learning
- Reading Skills
- Study Habits
- Study Time Commitment
- Writing Skills

Now that we have a short list of possible topics, we are requesting specific QEP proposals from you. Your proposal does not need to be limited to the topics provided. We encourage as much participation as possible, and all submissions are welcome, regardless of length or specificity. Please consult the guidelines at this link. The QEP Design Committee will soon email you a form for submitting your proposals, or alternatively, you can email them to Michael Homan (mhoman@xula.edu).

Submissions are due January 21, 2009. The proposals will be categorized and evaluated, and then posted online for comments. The QEP Design Committee will select the top three proposals, and in the first week of February the Committee will convene a campus forum to discuss the merits of each proposal. The final selection for our QEP will be made by mid-February.

The QEP can be a truly transformational process for the institution and we welcome broad input and cross-campus perspectives. Should you have any questions about the QEP process, contact any of the members of the QEP Design Committee who would be more than happy to share with you the importance of the QEP to the University and its future. The Committee members include: Mike Adams, Conchetta Fulton, Farrah Gafford, Michael Homan, Tien Huang, Elliott Hammer, and Cheryl Stevens.

We appreciate your consideration and the QEP Design Committee looks forward to reading your proposals.

Sincerely,

Norman C. Francis
President