



THE PROGRESS REPORT

EDUCATION

ASQ Members Volunteer in NC Capstone Project

Members of ASQ Triad Section 1109 volunteered and judged the annual North Carolina Agriculture and Technical (NC A&T) State University Applied Engineering Technology (AET) Capstone Project poster expo competition earlier this year.

Ronald Wilkins, project instructor and adjunct professor, started the NC A&T Capstone Project in 2018. The yearly competition features projects designed by Capstone students. Projects are shared with university professors, industry leaders and student peers to build prototypes for research and production.

The AET Capstone Project is a two-semester, required class for undergraduates in the University's AET program. First-semester students learn theoretical concepts of applied engineering design, connect with other students, review projects and submit them to Aixi Zhou, NC A&T AET department chair.

The second semester is spent executing the project with supplies provided by the university. Students are placed with mentors who share the work of getting the project created and provide much-needed moral support.

Throughout the semesters, students attend workshops, sponsored by the NC A&T ASQ Student Chapter and ASQ Central Carolina Section 1109.

The top three winners, named following the calculation of all the points, included the group that designed a 3D printer. This group worked with Core Technologies and Hewlett-Packard to create and execute its design.

The second and third-place finalists developed the diesel cutaway engine, and the fire and safety design, respectively. One winning group is in their first semester of the Capstone Project. The group returns in the next semester to continue its work.

— Ronald Wilkins, ASQ member and former ASQ Board of Directors member at large.



STANDARDS

ASQ/ANSI G1 PROVIDES NEW APPROACH TO QUALITY IMPLEMENTATION

A new approach to quality standards with broad application to all areas of quality practice can be found in the ASQ/ANSI G1 standards, which were quietly promulgated by the ASQ Government Division just more than two years ago.

The standards provide an objective and uniform grading system on the use of well-known quality practices for processes and systems organizationwide. They also offer a standard set of structured system management practices as a basis for stitching together all organizational systems and processes into a cohesive whole.

As structured, the process and system maturity standards (referred to as ANSI G1) provide a powerful adjunct to ISO 9001 and the Baldrige Excellence Framework by defining excellence in all operational systems. In effect, the new standard challenges managers and supervisors in an organization to map their work, beginning with intended outputs and outcomes, and to develop a best practice operational plan to achieve those goals.

By putting its clear focus on evaluating a quality work plan developed by all managers and supervisors, the ASQ Government Division believes it has created the first-ever "pull" system of quality. The expectation is that managers and supervisors will seek the help of the organizational quality office to raise their scores, instead of having the quality office responsible for "pushing" them to adopt appropriate quality practices.

In its two-year existence, ANSI G1 quickly has achieved broad support in government, and several federal agencies already have adopted its broadscale use. These include the U.S. Court of Appeals, the U.S. Naval Warfare Center and the Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms National Center for Explosives Training and Research.

—Richard E. Mallory, past chair, ASQ Government Division, and chair elect, ASQ Center for Electoral Quality & Integrity

➤ Visit the ASQ Government Division at qualitygovernment.org for more details.

➤ Visit asq.org/quality-press/display-item?item=T1574E to buy the ANSI G1 standard.

➤ To access a workbook on its application, go to mallorymanagement.net.

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