



CONCORDIA COLLEGE SELMA

1804 Green Street
Selma, Alabama 36701

Quality Enhancement Plan Executive Summary

Empowering Males for Success is the title of Concordia College Selma's (CCS) Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP). Its purpose is to help young men identify and cultivate the professional, ethical and moral direction for their lives that will lead ultimately to successful careers and productive citizenship. The goals of the QEP are to:

1. Prepare male students, especially first-time freshman, for global competitiveness; and
2. Provide a Christ-centered learning environment, which assist males, especially first-time freshman, in identifying spiritual, moral, and ethical direction and academic success.

The QEP grew as a result of institutional research focused on the overall performance and persistence of enrolled students. The research identified first-time freshman males as the largest growing segment of the college's student population and the least likely to graduate.

A review of the literature on first-year experiences revealed that, with the exception of Freshmen Orientation, CCS first-year experiences were not planned, systematic or institutionally designed to increase, if not ensure, first-year students' on-going success in meeting the challenges of campus living and independent learning. A review of the strategies presented in the literature specifically related to male initiatives in higher education, especially African American males, illustrated that they led to increased retention rates; however, graduation rates remained low.

CCS's QEP goes beyond the first-year experience to incorporate strategies identified in the literature on male initiatives to provide holistic supportive activities and services throughout a student's college experience. Student Learning outcomes for the QEP are organized around five tenets, which are not limited to class work but are infused throughout the college experience for each student. The five tenets are (1) Learning to Learn, (2) Learning to Lead, (3) Learning to Work, (4) Learning to Teach, and (5) Learning to Serve.

Student learning outcomes will be met by providing academic, social, and leadership enabling support to first-time freshman males in their first year of study and continuing throughout their college experience. To this end, the QEP will provide opportunities for (1) college enrichment, tutoring and leadership building, (2) independent thinking and analysis, and (3) acknowledgement of personal responsibility for academic success. It is expected that students who take advantage of the opportunities provided through the implementation of the QEP will be equipped with the necessary skills and knowledge to compete more effectively in a global environment. It is also expected that they will embrace spiritual, moral and ethical values that will allow them to lead fulfilled lives with financial regarding careers and to actively participate in the well being and prosperity of their families, communities, state, and nation.

For more information about CCS's QEP and its implementation, please visit our QEP website at <http://www.concordiaselma.edu> or contact Reginald Wells, QEP Director at 334-874-5700 x 19707 or Phyllis Richardson, Director, STAARS at 334-874-5700 x 19702.