

Executive Summary

Dallas Baptist University

QEP Title: Mentoring

Contact: Dr. Ed Walker, Director of the Center for Mentoring, edw@dbu.edu, 214-333-5672

DBU has selected mentoring as the focus of its second QEP. Mentoring has been proven to enhance student learning, and it aligns closely with the University's mission to "provide Christ-centered quality higher education ... in order to produce servant leaders who have the ability to integrate faith and learning through their respective callings."

The identification of mentoring as the QEP resulted from an institution-wide assessment process. The Academic Dean was tasked to survey various DBU groups regarding possible topics for the QEP. Based on that feedback, DBU's *Strategic Plan 2013-2018*, the University Mission Statement, and the call to enhance student learning, the QEP Study Committee identified mentoring as the potential focus of the QEP. The emphasis was unanimously approved by the President, Internal Administrative Cabinet, and Board of Trustees.

The QEP on Mentoring has the full support of DBU's President and Board of Trustees as evidenced by the establishment of the Center for Mentoring, the appointment of a Director of the Center for Mentoring and staff, the allocation of office space, and the inclusion of budgetary funds to support the implementation of the QEP on Mentoring and ongoing operation of the Center for Mentoring.

After the topic was identified, a QEP Implementation Committee was formed with representatives from various divisions across campus. This committee worked to develop a definition, goals, and learning outcomes. The definition of mentoring at DBU is as follows: "At Dallas Baptist University, mentoring is a Christ-centered relationship, intentionally forged, that nurtures, supports, and provides insight in order to foster the intellectual, spiritual, and professional development of students equipped to impact the world for the glory of God."

The goals and corresponding student learning outcomes for the QEP are as follows:

1. Intellectual Development—DBU students will become more engaged in the learning process.
2. Spiritual Development—DBU students will discern God's calling on their lives and increase in service to others.
3. Professional Development—DBU students will develop practical competencies and important soft skills necessary for life, employment, vocation, or calling.

The QEP includes a comprehensive plan for assessment primarily through data obtained from the College Student Thriving Quotient. The Director of the Center for Mentoring and the Council for Mentoring, in partnership with DBU's Office of Institutional Effectiveness, will monitor the assessment process and assure a continuous cycle of improvement.

Mentoring supports DBU's Mission, our Strategic Plan, and our desire to enhance student learning and success. With the implementation of the QEP, DBU expects mentoring relationships to strengthen student learning and further the mission to produce servant leaders who will impact local, national, and global communities for God's glory.