



Growing the economy . . . one graduate at a time.

Name of Institution: Florence-Darlington Technical College

Title of QEP: Setting the PACE: Purposeful Advising Center Experience

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Executive Summary

In an effort to significantly improve advising at Florence-Darlington Technical College (FDTC), Appreciative Advising (AA) Model was chosen as the focus area for the Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) in the P.A.C.E Center. The AA Model will represent FDTC's commitment to students' success, and allow advisors to focus on students' strengths and engage all in applying academic strategies for success through the AA model.

Appreciative Advising is an institution- wide approach where advisors will function like coaches, to not only encourage students, but to also show them specific tools to use to practice better student habits and life management patterns to improve their likelihood of success. The advisors and students will develop a partnership in which they combine efforts to develop a plan of action that will carry the individual students through to successful degree or credential completion.

FDTC will facilitate the Appreciative Advising Training College wide for all instructors assigned to the QEP Cohort. Currently, the Purposeful Advising Center Experience (P.A.C.E) will focus specifically on students who are enrolled in Reading 032 (Developmental Reading) and paired with College 103 (College Skills) classes. The strategies and techniques taught by instructors during the College 103 sessions will offer a learner-focused approach to students to their introduction to the FDTC campus and available choices for career and academic preparation.

The Purposeful Advising Center (P.A.C.E) will adopt the AA Model toward improving students as a result students will:

- 1) Demonstrate an ability to connect what they are learning with their chosen career options.
- 2) Demonstrate an ability to identify pathways/sequences of courses required for attainment of their chosen credential.
- 3) Demonstrate knowledge of resources available to them to support their credential attainment.

The Institutional data will contain the success rate of Appreciative Advising by way of surveys administered in College 103 Cohort grades. In order to be able to generate the desired learning outcomes, the QEP team has set a plan of action that was tested as a pilot during the summer 2016 semester. During the 2016-2017 academic years, a refined process will emerge and improvements will be made over a five year period through ongoing Professional Development Training that relates to the Appreciative Advising Model.