



The ANCHOR Model of Academic Advising: Engagement Through Relationships

Jackson State Community College (JSCC) has identified the improvement of academic advising as the topic for this QEP as the Institution identified existing advising practices that have become prescriptive in nature, focusing primarily on the act of course registration instead of comprehensive advising. As the Institution is devoted to student success, and considering the fact that effective academic advising is one method of achieving that success, this QEP will enhance current advising practices by creating a more effective model of advising, known as the ANCHOR Model.

The ANCHOR Model of Academic Advising is based on well-informed and engaged advisors and students working as partners to promote student learning. The model is focused on persistence based on a system of guidance and collaboration with students in academic planning that fits with personal goals and is supported by appropriate interventions at important milestones in a student's college experience.

The goal of the QEP is to improve student success by creating an advising model that blends both developmental and intrusive advising practices including a robust and engaging first-year experience course titled "College to Career Navigation." Part of this advising process is to recognize the value of informed decision making and strategies designed to engage students in their college experience from the very first contact with the college. Building upon the student-advisor relationship, established early and continuing throughout a student's time at JSCC, the ANCHOR Model is based on nationally recognized research and national and state data trends.

To achieve the goal of the QEP, JSCC has created specific, measurable, and robust Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) along with Institutional Outcomes to measure progress as the Institution implements the ANCHOR Model.

As the QEP calls for an institution-wide culture change, the plan of implementation will be staggered into three phases. Given the nature of the topic and the culture-shift the QEP hopes to create, professional development and training opportunities will be a central focus as the Institution moves through the plan.

The College has designated a position in the Office of the Vice President of Academic Affairs to be responsible for coordination and oversight of the implementation of the QEP. A committee, known as the Navigation Committee, will assist with this implementation. In addition, a steering committee will oversee the implementation of the College to Career Navigation course and to work with faculty members teaching the course to implement any changes and improvements that are recommended as a result of the assessment of the course.

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