



Quality Enhancement Program
February 28, 2011

MENTORING STUDENTS AT MOREHOUSE

Executive Summary

Morehouse School of Medicine (MSM) has a short but rich history of producing medical doctors and other health professionals to provide health care and health-related services to America's poor and underserved. In keeping with this mission and aligned with the strategic initiative to expand the institution's educational programs and sustain the highest standards of teaching, excellence, and professional competence, a Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) project entitled, "**Mentoring Students at Morehouse**" will become operational in the fall of 2011.

In a deliberative and comprehensive process, which involved and was informed by all campus stakeholders, including administration, faculty, staff, and students, through committees, forums, focus groups, and surveys, "**Mentoring Students at Morehouse**" was selected as the most time appropriate and resource sensitive way to enhance student learning outcomes at MSM. A combination of growth in student enrollment and new degree/honors programs required a formal reassessment and restructuring of current approaches to mentoring so as to expand, redevelop and reemphasize new strategies. By strengthening mentorship of students and faculty in all programs, MSM will build on past successes, creating a vibrant infrastructure for planned growth.

Our vision is ***to connect, expand, and enhance the mentoring of MSM students to Sustain excellence as programs expand.*** To achieve this vision, the following learning goals were developed:

1. Assure the success of mentoring programs through ongoing faculty training.
2. Enhance students' academic success by expanding and enriching peer/near peer mentoring and enhancing the support of challenged students in course enrichment mentoring and tutoring.
3. Enhance student development as professionals through the establishment of learning communities.

For each of these goals, the QEP outlines the necessary objectives, activities, timelines, responsible personnel, and evaluation questions to assess the effectiveness of the project. Current and required resources are also outlined.

A successful "**Mentoring Students at Morehouse**" will result in:

- improved learning outcomes for our students, including skills, grades, scores, and time- to- degree, when compared to established baselines;
- our students developing long-term supportive relationships through mentoring sessions, mentors, and/or learning communities;
- and, development and/or enhancement of faculty members' skill and capacities as mentors through mentoring training sessions.

Responsibility for this program rests with Dr. Martha Elks, Senior Associate Dean of Medical Education at 404-752-1881 or melks@msm.edu .