Snead State Community College
Student Success: College Wide

Snead State Community College exists to help students become college graduates. Students often begin college underprepared in many ways including academic skills, studentship skills, college knowledge, self-knowledge, and lack of support. This lack of knowledge, skills, and support hinder their success and achievement. These obstacles may lead to students failing to complete individual courses, dropping out prior to the end of a term and eventually failing to graduate.

In fact the College's current course completion rate is approximately 75%. That means approximately one-fourth of the students in each class do not successfully complete the course due to either low grades or withdrawal. Snead State Community College aims to quickly identify students who are at risk and provide them with the resources necessary to maximize their success. This is our mission and Snead State Community College's Quality Enhancement Plan is therefore designed to promote college completion.

Snead States QEP consists of two primary initiatives – an Early Alert System and expanded tutoring services. The Early Alert enables College personnel to monitor and intervene with appropriate services to keep students in school and help them progress towards graduation. The College also expanded existing tutoring services to encompass not just academics but also other areas including improved studentship skills, college knowledge and self-knowledge

The key to success for the Early Alert System is the ability to recognize potential barriers to success as early as possible and offer appropriate alerts to the student and to appropriate college personnel. The Early Alert program is used to identify students enrolled at Snead State who may need some type of assistance (academic, knowledge, personal). The goal is to keep the student enrolled in class and help them succeed. The Early Alert program seeks to increase the academic and social integration necessary for students to feel connected to and fully engaged in the college environment.

The second strategy the College to achieve the QEP goal is the expanding of existing tutoring services to include a variety of academic support services. The Academic Support Center offers a wide range of opportunities including group tutoring, one-on-one tutoring, exam reviews, and supplemental instruction. Some of these services are embedded in the Gateway courses while some are housed in the Academic Support Center. The Academic Support Center focuses on more than academics, as it also includes sessions regarding improved studentship skills, college knowledge, and self-knowledge.

The assessment strategies to be implanted include both formative and summative measures designed to measure success with implementation of the Early Alert and the Enhanced Tutoring services. Short term, the College aims for improvement in student success in key Gateway courses that can become barriers to degree completion. Long-term the College believes the QEP serves to facilitate achievement of critical goals found in the College's Enrollment Management Plan. These include student recruitment, student retention and persistence and student graduation.

Contact: Dr. Dustin Smith, Director of Quality Enhancement Plan at dsmith@snead.edu; Dr. Annette Cederholm, Associate Dean for Academic Planning Research at acederholm@snead.edu