



SOUTH COLLEGE 2015 Quality Enhancement Plan: Quest for Math Improvement (*Qmi*) Condensed Summary

Following a broad-based process that solicited recommendations for a QEP topic, student math skills rose as the most critical to be addressed through the South College QEP. A five-year Plan has been developed to focus on improvement of students' math skills/performance and their confidence to apply these skills in their personal, academic, and professional lives. The Plan is based on current literature and best practices to include faculty development, resources, student assessment, competency-based learning, course redesign, and interactive learning. The "Quest" involves **Quantifying Foundation Skills**, **Understanding Apprehension**, **Engaging Learning**, **Supporting Efforts**, and **Testing Knowledge**.

The student learning outcome for the Quest for Math Improvement (*Qmi*) has a central focus:

- Student achievement in math will improve.

To achieve this outcome and to evaluate the improvement in student learning, innovative instructional methods, enhanced assessment techniques, and interactive resources that promote success of students are being employed. At various points across their academic programs – beginning math courses, beginning math-related major courses, and end of program – students will receive instruction and be assessed to ensure maximum success in math achievement. Other initiatives involve activities to promote positive attitudes toward math.

The institution has/is engaged in pilot projects for several aspects of the *Qmi* plan. Feedback from each of these completed pilot projects from participating students, faculty, and staff has been considered and is included in the plan. Additionally, comments, discussions, and clarifications arising from review of the draft QEP document led to improvements in the overall plan.

South College has committed to the QEP and invested in the initiatives for the plan. These resources center largely on faculty/staff dedication of time, faculty development, instructional tools, student resources, and cost of planned events.

The South College QEP Quest for Math Improvement (*Qmi*) supports the institutional mission, particularly promotion of the intellectual, social, and professional development of a diverse student body and exposure of students to diverse perspectives and skills essential for independent and life-long learning. Further, the Plan supports the core general education outcome for students to demonstrate effective quantitative computational and reasoning skills. The institution is confident that successful implementation of the Plan will decrease student anxiety and frustration and promote successful persistence through math-related courses.

For more details, please contact Dr. Kim Hall, Executive Vice President/Provost, at khall@southcollegetn.edu or 865-251-1800.