



## Wilson Community College – QEP Executive Summary

### *The Advising Pie: Prepare, Inspire, Engage: A Focus on Advising*

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Wilson Community College (WCC) is committed to helping students reach their educational goals through its mission “to provide opportunities for academic excellence, student success, workforce development, community partnerships, and responsible stewardship”. Too often, community college students do not attain their goals because they drop out of college prematurely. Retention across the nation has become an important factor in college governance at all levels of higher education; WCC is no different. The College recognized the need to provide an environment that fosters additional support to new students. As a result, WCC has developed a Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) that will foster a culture where students are empowered to achieve academic success through intentional advising partnerships, meaningful learning opportunities, and purposeful self-discovery.

QEP discussions began, campus-wide, with the overall level of dissatisfaction of the current advising practices which were basically a scheduling/registering session between advisors and students. As data was gathered and discussions ensued with the QEP Committees, it became clear that a change in the advising culture and practices would result in significant improvement in the quality of student advising and learning. The plan began to take shape and resulted in the creation of *The Advising PIE: Prepare, Inspire, Engage: A Focus on Advising*.

The QEP goals are 1) to improve the advising process to promote academic success; and 2) to improve the orientation and first year experience for new students. The student learning objectives (SLOs) for Goal 1 consist of students fulfilling the responsibilities throughout the advising process and creating a Goal Based Academic Plan to achieve their educational goals. The SLOs for Goal 2 require students to complete ACA 111 or 122 in their first semester and to identify and connect with campus resources. The accomplishments of these goals and objectives will engage students in their academic plans and immerse them with tools they need at their entry point to the College in order to persist and be successful in their academic goals.

The strategies to meet the objectives include an advising syllabus, advisor training, mandatory orientation, completion of ACA 111 or 122 in the first semester, success workshops for students, implementation of Student Planning software, and the establishment of a student success center. The assessment plan, which aligns with the five-year timeline, will include items that address the skills and abilities related to the student learning outcomes.