



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Laredo College's Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) topic, ***Digital Connections: Bridging Learning and Technology***, evolved through a yearlong process of evaluation and discussions among campus stakeholders – faculty, staff, students, and community – as well as review of the literature and institutional data. The conceptual framework of this plan incorporates teaching and learning strategies, professional development and training, and engagement in academic support models to enhance the use of digital learning technology and ultimately impact student success.

Digital Connections: Bridging Learning and Technology has three overarching goals with corresponding outcomes focused on student success, which will be assessed through multiple direct and indirect assessment methods to document the impact of the QEP. Through this plan, the College seeks to successfully achieve the following:

(1) **Student Engagement**: Create a collaborative model that integrates student services and instruction intent on developing opportunities for students to engage in high-impact practices.

1.1 Increase student engagement in digital learning opportunities.

1.2 Upgrade and enhance access and connectivity to technology resources.

(2) **Quality Course Content**: Increase student success in gatekeeper and high attrition courses using digital learning technology to improve pedagogical practices.

2.1 Empower students academically by integrating digital tools into gatekeeper courses.

2.2 Identify and implement appropriate digital tools into gatekeeper courses

(3) **Professional Development**: Engage faculty and staff in professional learning opportunities intended to facilitate implementation of digital learning technology.

3.1 Enhance faculty expertise in utilization of digital learning technology

3.2 Provide learning opportunities to ensure staff have knowledge of digital technologies that enhance academic and student support services.

Digital learning offers students access to an effective and flexible type of learning which allows them to gain a better understanding of course concepts as well as to become active participants in their learning through the use of technology. As learning experiences and engagement evolve through the integration of technology at all levels of instruction – from K-12 to higher education, it is crucial for Laredo College to actively bridge learning and technology through Digital Connections.

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