

# **FRAME<sup>2</sup> YOUR FUTURE: FOCUSED ROUTE OF ACADEMICS TO MAXIMIZE EDUCATION & EMPLOYMENT**

Executive Summary of Panola College's Quality Enhancement Plan

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Panola College's Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) topic is a direct outcome of its mission, institutional goals, and strategic planning that focus on student engagement and success. In Spring 2017 institutional planning meetings, administrators and faculty expressed concern that the average Panola College student took 3.3 years and 83 semester credit hours (SCH) to complete a degree. In Fall 2017, the College's Instructional Council surveyed students, faculty, and staff with regard to possible topics for its QEP. The survey produced 627 responses with 48 percent indicating providing students "Paths to Success" as the most pressing concern for the institution. Instructional Council members agreed that the topic identified in the survey accurately matched concerns identified in institutional planning. As a result, **FRAME<sup>2</sup> your future: Focused Route of Academics to Maximize Education & Employment** was adopted as Panola College's QEP.

In Spring 2018, the Vice President of Instruction appointed a QEP Committee that included administrators, faculty, and staff from various academic and support areas. In response to institutional completion data and QEP survey results, the QEP Committee began researching literature and best practices for establishing a first-year experience that would improve student learning and student success. Using recommendations from respected educators and researchers, the Committee created and piloted the **Learning Framework** course in Fall 2018. The Committee also developed a budget and timeline identifying necessary resources to sustain and guide the QEP.

**Student learning outcomes** (SLOs) were developed by the QEP Committee: (1) identify and describe theories of learning, cognition, and motivation; (2) identify and describe factors that impact learning; and (3) demonstrate and apply the use of various learning strategies. Assessments were embedded in the Learning Framework course to measure the SLOs. In order for the QEP to be successful with regard to student learning outcomes, the goal is a 5% increase from the 72% success rate in the pilot course to 77%. The successful attainment of student learning outcomes will shape behaviors essential for student learning in future classes and for completion of a degree or certificate.

Additionally, students increase the probability of future academic success by acquiring awareness of College resources and demonstrating self-advocacy strategies taught in the Learning Framework course. The QEP Committee established the following **student success goals** to improve progression and completion: (1) increase Learning Framework course completion to 85%, (2) increase 15 SCH attainment to 42%, (3) increase 30 SCH attainment to 30%, (4) increase degree/certificate attainment to 33%, and (5) increase university transfers to 16.5%. Each of the measures represents a 5% increase over 5 years. In order for the QEP to be successful with regard to student success, at least 33% of students finishing the Learning Framework course must complete a degree or certificate.

Panola College's Quality Enhancement Plan provides a learning framework that engages students to improve academic achievement and program completion. Clear direction for progression and completion taught in Learning Framework offers structure for students to frame their future.