

Executive Summary

Beginning in March of 2019, faculty and staff at **Southern Regional Technical College (SRTC)** began to meet and discuss current issues in order to determine areas of improvement at the college that would benefit the largest number of students. Concurrently, faculty, staff, students, and community members, were participating in surveys and discussions to provide input for ways to best impact student success at SRTC. In February of 2020, after reviewing surveys, responses from the previously mentioned focus groups, and student data, it was decided by the QEP Committee to select student advising as the QEP topic by unanimous vote. The result was the ***Stay on T.R.A.C.K.: Target Responsive Advising for Career Knowledge*** Quality Enhancement Plan.

SRTC currently employs a faculty advising model that utilizes full-time faculty from programs located in each of the schools to advise and register students. After interviews and panel discussions with current faculty advisors, the QEP Committee feels that current advising practices lack consistency in the advising process, hindering student success at times.

A three pronged approach will be implemented to help SRTC students achieve the specified learning outcomes: program faculty advisor training, enhanced student resources, and the Stay on T.R.A.C.K. Center with Success Coaches. Program faculty advisor training will be developed and implemented to ensure advising excellence and consistency across the campuses and programs. Enhanced student resources, such as brochures and degree plans, will be created to help guide students and keep them on track. Lastly, the Stay on T.R.A.C.K. Center will be a physical space to bring together existing campus services and new resources, such as the Success Coaches, to increase student success and assist students in their overall college experience at SRTC.

This new blended approach to advising at SRTC will enhance advisement techniques for current program faculty advisors and create a new team of specialized Success Coaches that will serve part-time in the Stay on T.R.A.C.K. Center to assist with all first term students, as well as any prospective or current students seeking assistance. By assisting students with identifying and creating goals, developing plans to achieve their goals, and entering appropriate programs to reach their goals, Stay on T.R.A.C.K. Center Success Coaches will increase retention and student success resulting in more students earning their credential. As students become adjusted and comfortable with SRTC and their courses, they will transition to a faculty advisor within their chosen program. For additional information, contact Jessica Barfield, Executive Director of Advisement and Professional Development at jbarfield@southernregional.edu .