



## North Greenville University QEP

### *Promoting Student Success Among First-Generation College Students*

North Greenville University's Quality Enhancement Plan focus was selected and developed by a committee appointed by the provost with periodic input from administration, faculty, staff, and students. The committee found that the population of first-generation college students (FGCS) has been identified as one with a higher associated risk of failing to persist through graduation, and therefore determined that the focus of this QEP would be FGCS.

The committee defined a FGCS as a student whose parent/guardian has not earned a four-year college degree. Historically, FGCS have faced a higher number of challenges in adjusting to the college environment. Challenges for this group range from the lack of a support system at home, to insufficient experience when navigating administrative processes (financial aid, registration, and college resources), to underdeveloped study skills. The QEP was built around the creation and implementation of ONE, a program that celebrates FGCS and connects them with the knowledge and support that will enable them to experience a great beginning to their college career, setting them on a path to success. The program will focus on FGCS over the course of their first year at NGU and seek to increase the students' sense of belonging, their knowledge of university resources, and their ability to persist through graduation.

ONE program goals are to <sup>(1)</sup> increase student success indicators, <sup>(2)</sup> create a sense of belonging to the NGU community, <sup>(3)</sup> expose FGCS to basic college skills and NGU information. With the creation of ONE, the university is committing to improving the success of FGCS and to using the data generated by the program to inform further development of services that support at-risk student groups.

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