

College of Coastal Georgia
Quality Enhancement Plan – *COMPASS: Chart Your Course*
Executive Summary

COMPASS: Chart Your Course, the College of Coastal Georgia's Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP), is focused on creating an environment that promotes student growth and development through integrated career and academic planning. The goal of the QEP is to direct a cohort of first-time freshmen to apply their interests and abilities toward developing educational and career goals to choose and stay on an academic pathway through degree completion. The plan's goal will be accomplished through the following student success outcomes:

- Students will establish educational and career goals consistent with their interests and abilities.
- Students will develop and articulate an actionable academic plan aligned with their educational and career goals.
- Students will achieve timely progression in attaining their educational and career goals.

This document is an action plan supporting these outcomes. It includes a corresponding description of the organizational structure necessary to achieve the outcomes and an assessment plan to measure the effectiveness of the QEP. The student success outcomes will be achieved at multiple points during a student's educational journey. The QEP will offer first-time freshmen opportunities to connect their academic and social experiences to personal growth and career development and enhance their awareness of the resources and activities provided to help guide them in academic and career planning. Coastal Georgia's action plan will focus on the following:

- Student success – To better prepare students to enter the workforce upon graduation by engaging them in career planning activities through intentional progression milestones, useful program maps, and experiential learning. Additionally, students will articulate learned, relevant skills and experiences as they navigate life after college.
- Professional development – To equip faculty and staff with the knowledge, tools, and ideas to effectively support integrated career and academic planning, creating an enriched educational environment that emphasizes students' career exploration skills.

The COMPASS Career & Academic Advising Center will serve as the "bridge" connecting student success and professional development. The Center will provide academic advising and career counseling to connect students to academic and career planning resources. Further, the Center will offer students mentoring opportunities with faculty, staff, and peers while coordinating QEP-related campus activities.

The QEP topic grew from a year-long comprehensive, systematic, and collaborative planning process. The College's broad constituency – faculty, staff, students, administrators, and alumni – engaged in focus groups, listening sessions, and surveys. Additionally, a review of existing practices, empirical data from campus assessments, and best practices served as a foundation for developing the plan. The QEP Topic Selection Committee solicited ideas and potential topics, then narrowed the field of proposals. These submissions were then refined according to SACSCOC guidelines. The highest-ranked topic focused on integrating academic advising and career development to improve student success. The final proposal was presented and approved by the President's Cabinet. The QEP Development Committee then discussed, designed, and matched student success outcomes to the actions, institutional structure, and resources. A QEP implementation timeline was subsequently developed.

Student success will be assessed using multiple methods that will inform the continuous improvement of the QEP to maximize and sustain its impact.

*For information regarding the development and implementation of the QEP, please contact
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