



NEWBERRY
COLLEGE



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Newberry College's Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP), **Newberry Edge: Advising Purposeful Pathways to Success**, seeks to improve the clarity and effectiveness of our academic advising process. In institutional strategic planning, academic advising was one of the 12 priorities targeted from student feedback. Each of these priorities was assigned to an organizational team represented by staff, faculty, and students who worked to outline steps for improvement. While these strategic initiatives were being drafted, the Newberry College faculty council surveyed faculty, staff, and students regarding possible QEP topics. These results were submitted and then analyzed to a broad-based QEP selection task force with students, staff, coaches, and faculty representation. The QEP selection task force identified academic advising as the most needed area for enhancing student success, retention, and persistence based on both the strategic planning data and faculty council survey results.

The vision for **Newberry Edge** is to create clear and purposeful academic plans for students connected to their vocational and educational goals. Eight targets to improve academic advising include vision, point person, committee, first-year focus, assessment, professional development, supportive technology, and career relevance. Targeted goals and measures to assess the outcomes have been established for each year of the QEP.

Newberry Edge will target these specific areas to increase student success:

- Develop advisor development training and model to increase advisor effectiveness and align with best practices.
- Pave clear academic pathways to graduation through clarifying CORE curriculum and technology updates.
- Strengthen student retention and persistence by enhancing the advisor relationship through strategic first-year initiatives.
- Guide students' educational goals through exploring with purpose and career readiness skills.
- Improve student satisfaction with the advising process.

A graduated rollout of advisor development training, clarifying academic programs, streamlining technology, and targeting educational and vocational goals is in place. Assessment plans for each year of implementation, include formative and summative data from students and advisors combined with student retention and persistence data. **Newberry Edge** has university-wide support and budgeted resources to develop, implement, and achieve these stated goals.

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