



PACE (Perspectives, Advising, Campus Resources, Engagement) Executive Summary

After extensive research into data, stakeholder concerns, and institutional trends, the Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) Planning Committee at Dalton State College chose student success for first-year students as its general focus and identified strategies for intervention in four primary areas: Perspectives, our seminar for first-year students, Advising, Campus Resources, and Engagement (*PACE*). **To enhance student success for first-year, degree-seeking students by the end of their first full year of enrollment, *PACE* activities will focus on improving two Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) that are components of first-year student success.** Competencies aligning with student learning outcomes have been established to guide assessment, and the Committee planned three primary actions to support each SLO.

SLO 1: Students will demonstrate knowledge and skills that develop their academic perseverance.

Actions: (1) Require Perspectives, a first-year seminar course, for all first-year, degree-seeking students, enrolled in A.A., A.S. and bachelor's degree programs; (2) Develop and implement common Perspectives activities pertaining to advising and campus resources, with reflections; and (3) Expand outreach from the Student Success and Advising Center.

SLO 2: Students will describe an enhanced sense of belonging within the College.

Actions: (1) Establish and sustain campus traditions for first-year students; (2) Design interactions for students to understand available engagement opportunities; and (3) Develop and implement common Perspectives activities related to engagement and service learning, with reflections.

A broad student base will be reached through *PACE* by using the first-year seminar course, Perspectives, to connect students with resources and reflective opportunities that provide the knowledge, skills, and experiences for developing academic perseverance and a sense of belonging. To accomplish this, we will embed common elements in the Perspectives course and associated labs and reflective assignments related to advising, campus resources, and engagement opportunities across all course themes. SLOs will be addressed by direct and indirect measures, including rubrics for evaluating student reflections and the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE). Dalton State College is committed to supporting QEP activities by allocating resources that support key transformations and actions among the four primary pillars of *PACE*: Perspectives, Advising, Campus Resources, and Engagement.

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