

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ARISE - Advising Reimagined for Student Excellence

Beginning in the fall of 2023, Mississippi College will implement its latest QEP, Advising Reimagined for Student Excellence (ARISE). After a review of MC's on-going strategic planning efforts and surveying of the university's constituencies, undergraduate advising emerged as the area with the broadest and most consistent support.

Over five years, ARISE will achieve four goals:

Goal 1 - Create More Time for Advisor and Advisee Interactions

Goal 2 - Centralize a Point of Contact for Advising

Goal 3 - Standardize the Advising Experience

Goal 4 - Provide Professional Development

These goals were developed by blending on-campus data collected from undergraduates, faculty, and staff with the National Academic Advising Association's Core Values for Academic Advising. As such, the goals are unique to MC's institutional context but built on best practices in U.S. higher education.

To meet these goals, ARISE reimagines undergraduate advising at MC through structural and curricular changes to impact both student learning outcomes and student success. This includes moving MC from a faculty-only advising model where all undergraduates are advised by full-time faculty to a shared supplementary advising model where faculty still advise but are supported by a central office providing professional development, support, and oversight.

Additionally, ARISE will be led by Co-QEP directors Dr. Rachel Peeples (peeples@mc.edu) and Dr. Martha D'Amico (mbdamico@mc.edu). The QEP learning outcomes will be met through a combination of faculty development related to advising, student education on advising skills and expectations, and an iterative assessment model. There will be benchmarks in its first year and add successive cohorts of first-year students each subsequent year until all undergraduates are part of ARISE. The structural changes, curriculum changes, and new initiatives assure MC has dedicated the resources needed to implement, maintain, and meet ARISE's goals.

ARISE's robust, annual assessment structure assures progress will be measured each year and that practices can be modified annually. By implementing these revisions and meeting ARISE's goals, MC will enhance and standardize the advising experience of its undergraduates to positively impact student success for the next generation of MC students.