QEP Title: Providing a Campus Life that Develops Leaders

Institution: Concordia University Texas

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Executive Summary:

The mission of Concordia University Texas is to "develop Christian leaders." In support of this broad university-wide mission, Concordia's QEP (Quality Enhancement Plan) is a commitment to creating an environment and culture that intentionally develops leaders. Through the OEP. Concordia is making a commitment of time and financial resources to foster and support a culture where students, faculty, staff and the community engage in learning about and putting into practice the skills associated with leadership. These include such aspects as dialogue, collaboration, mentoring, strategic planning, service to others, and understanding the intricacies of what makes a leader effective. To that end, Concordia's QEP focuses on the development and delivery of a series of courses in leadership that will be required of all undergraduate students seeking a degree at Concordia. For example, the vision of "leadership" around which the OEP was developed and on which it will be assessed defines a leader as someone who sees things from a "different perspective" than someone who does not view his or herself as a leader. Typically, this "different perspective" will include a broader sense of what leadership is, who leaders can be, what roles leaders can have in large and small organizations, and what service leaders can provide to those around them. The initial course, taught mostly in a seminar fashion, will provide both a knowledge base of what leadership is as well as the opportunity to learn and practice the skills associated with leadership. As students participate in this seminar approach to leadership development, it is hoped that the campus life of the University will change as students become more involved in leadership roles and see themselves as more fully integrated into Concordia University Texas as a whole. The goal of greater involvement and engagement applies to both the traditional program and the accelerated degree programs at each of the University Centers across the state. To make this a reality, many people will be involved in teaching, modeling, practicing and recognizing leadership in new and different ways. The OEP sets forth a framework to provide for that culture of leadership to grow and so that tangible evidence of developing these outcomes can be obtained.

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