

Free Will Baptist Bible College Quality Enhancement Plan: Access to Success Executive Summary

The goal of the Free Will Baptist Bible College (FWBBC) Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP), *Access to Success*, is to enhance the student learning experience and the environment supporting student learning. The FWBBC QEP Committee elicited input from all stakeholders about broad areas of both strength and student need. Input was evaluated and interpreted.

The QEP Committee's review of a range of institutional data, comparing various measures of success for all student groups, led to a discussion of the College's open enrollment policy which is juxtaposed with challenging student learning prerequisites required for graduation. The Committee concluded that a significant number of FWBBC freshmen enter the College lacking necessary skills and knowledge to be successful in college. Inadequate progress results in some freshmen leaving school. For others who persist after the freshman year, meeting graduation prerequisites means course retakes, longer matriculation, and greater costs. *Access to Success* seeks to bridge the gap between access to FWBBC and academic success.

The Committee also reviewed related literature about how to enhance the learning experience of first-year students and examined similar plans of other institutions. This led FWBBC's QEP Committee to propose the following five-year academic goals:

1. Increase the mean GPA of freshmen by .50 as compared to the current mean.
2. Eighty percent (80%) of all freshmen entering fall, 2010, and subsequently, will achieve at least a 2.0 average GPA during each term of their freshman year.
3. Freshmen will pass 10% more credit hours attempted during the 2010-11 academic year as compared to the 2009-10 benchmark.
4. Major field and CAAP tests will show 5% improvement beginning in 2014.

All academic goals and related initiatives have scheduled assessments, a timeline, and a supporting budget. The proposed QEP has been presented to and approved by the faculty, the President's Leadership Team, the President, and the FWBBC Board of Trustees. In April 2010, the President of the Student Body presented an outline of the QEP to the FWBBC Student Council and the Provost presented information about the QEP to the entire student body.

Related QEP initiatives include revamped Freshman Orientation, implementation of a new student information management system, peer-mentoring to support first-year students, implementation of a formal tutoring program, and employment of a Freshman Coordinator to compile and evaluate profiles, train tutors, and implement the formal tutoring program.

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