



READ: Reaching Every Academic Dream
Executive Summary

The mission of South Georgia Technical College (SGTC) is “to prepare individuals for success in the workforce.” To that end, the Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) of SGTC focuses on reading engagement and is designed to promote development of stronger reading skills, enhance program engagement, and improve student learning as well as college and workforce success. Readings will be focused on program/career specific topics and will be drawn from professional journals/publications, popular magazines, current events, industry publications and websites, electronic and social media sources, and even fictional accounts—though sources and resources will vary by topic area, all students and instructors will be able to select from a range of materials to ensure that an appropriate and engaging fit can be identified.

Input from faculty, staff, students, and program advisory committees, supported by student success data, has led SGTC to develop the ***READ: Reaching Every Academic Dream*** initiative. The ***READ*** QEP will be assessed using direct assessment in vocabulary growth, reading comprehension and recognition, and critical analysis of reading materials linked to each of our program areas; improved program retention and job placement are also expected as a result of implementing ***READ***. The Nelson-Denny Reading Test results provide the benchmark data to ensure students reach the appropriate college-ready reading level. Qualitative data will also be collected to show that students will become better informed about their chosen career area and will be more fully engaged both as students and employees upon graduation/completion.

The ***READ*** initiative will be implemented in stages beginning with six program areas and will expand each year until all programs on campus are included. Two co-chairs, one from English/Reading and one from Computer Information Systems, will provide overall support and will work with faculty/staff driven committees to organize staff development as necessary to support the QEP. Existing library resources and current department/program materials will be utilized and expanded to support ***READ***. It is also the vision of the QEP Implementation Committee that students, instructors, staff, and external stakeholders will enthusiastically seek out and share resources to help this initiative thrive and thereby create an environment where students are eager and excited to learn more about and engage more fully in their chosen career.

Additional information can be obtained from:

Karen Werling, Vice President for Institutional Effectiveness, Student Affairs, and Institutional Technology kwerling@southgatech.edu 229-931-2902