

# **Action Project Declaration**

## **Implement a New Faculty Advising Model**

Planned project kickoff date: January 2008

Target completion date: January 2010

- A. Give this Action Project a short title in 10 words or fewer:

Implement a new faculty advising model for the College.

- B. Describe this Action Project's goal in 100 words or fewer:

The District wrote for and received a Title III grant to assist those students that are considered at-risk. The initiative ties to the prepared learner effort that is taking place in the Wisconsin Technical College System. Faculty advising is one of the methods the College wants to employ as a strategy for improved student success and retention. The model will be designed by first investigating best practices and evaluating our current model for enhancements in technique and processes. Additionally, Banner and document imaging will support the implementation of a high quality advising model by improving access and communication for advisors.

- C. Identify the single AQIP Category which the Action Project will most affect or impact:

AQIP Category One: Helping Students Learn

AQIP Category Two: Accomplishing Other Distinctive Objectives

AQIP Category Three: Understanding Students' and Other Stakeholders' Needs

AQIP Category Four: Valuing People

AQIP Category Five: Leading and Communicating

AQIP Category Six: Supporting Institutional Operations

AQIP Category Seven: Measuring Effectiveness

AQIP Category Eight: Planning Continuous Improvement

AQIP Category Nine: Building Collaborative Relationships

Although this project will touch several categories, Category Two may be the broader category.

- D. Describe briefly your institution's reasons for taking on this Action Project now -- why the project and its goals are high among your current priorities:

Faculty advising models have been noted as valuable to student success. Student retention and program completion are dependent on multiple factors and requires a more comprehensive approach. The current model does not work as effectively as intended. In addition, the statewide effort in the WTCS to do more as it relates to the prepared learner initiative, this is a good match. We are identifying at-risk factors using the Noel-Levitz College Student Inventory (CSI) and this effort fits well into the plan of helping students succeed through various intervention strategies.

- E. List the organizational areas - -institutional departments, programs, divisions, or units -- most affected by or involved in this Action Project:

Most impacted will be our students and the services we provide to them. The faculty will be significantly impacted by this as they are the advisors in the model. This would involve academics (faculty from essentially every discipline/instructional area) Admissions, Assessment, etc..

- F. Name and describe briefly the key organizational process(es) that you expect this Action Project to change or improve:

The entire process of how a student is advised. The model anticipates that the college will be the drive of the advising model versus being student initiated. Students would have interaction with their advisor on a regular basis and could take place in a face-to-face format, written communication (e-mail, letter, etc.) or verbal (phone). All students will have access to advising services.

- G. Explain the rationale for the length of time planned for this Action Project (from kickoff to target completion):

The time for this project takes into account the time to investigate and evaluate best practices as well as a full evaluation of our current process.

- H. Describe how you plan to monitor how successfully your efforts on this Action Project are progressing:

Measures will occur through customer feedback (surveys, focus groups, etc.). In addition, faculty will be surveyed for input on effectiveness and opportunities for improvement.

- I. Describe the overall "outcome" measures or indicators that will tell you whether this Action Project has been a success or failure in achieving its goals:

Success will be measured by greater customer satisfaction with advising, greater knowledge of advisor and advising (what it is, how to access, etc.). Students will stay on track with completion of curriculum (program completion/graduation) and retention will be improved.

J. Other information (e.g., publicity, sponsor or champion, etc.):

This project is supported by the Quality Council, College Planning and Leadership Team, President, Board, as well as various staff—including faculty.

K. Project Leader and contact person:

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