As part of the College of Coastal Georgia’s reaffirmation of accreditation with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC), the College is required to develop a Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP). The QEP is a comprehensive, five-year plan designed to enhance the student learning experience. To ensure the success of the QEP, the Mariner community needs to familiarize itself with the plan.

**What is the QEP?**
QEP stands for Quality Enhancement Plan. To maintain its membership with SACSCOC, Coastal Georgia must develop, implement, and complete a QEP as part of its reaffirmation of accreditation every ten years.

**How was this topic selected?**
The QEP topic grew from a year-long comprehensive, systematic, and collaborative planning process. In March 2020, Coastal Georgia formed a QEP Topic Selection Committee to identify the College's next QEP. After reviewing existing practices, empirical data from campus assessments, and best practices to enhance student learning, the Committee identified integrated career and academic planning as its Quality Enhancement Plan topic.

**What is the QEP title?**
COMPASS: Chart Your Course
Integrated Career & Academic Planning

**What is the QEP about?**
The QEP is focused on student success by creating an environment that promotes student growth and development through integrated career and academic planning.

**What is the goal of the QEP?**
The goal of the QEP is to direct a cohort of first-time freshmen to apply their interests and abilities toward developing educational and career goals so that they choose and stay on an academic pathway until degree completion.

**What will students learn through their participation in the QEP?**
Coastal Georgia’s QEP, COMPASS: Chart Your Course, Integrated Career & Academic Planning, will engage first-time freshmen in career exploration, developing a career plan, and selecting and persisting on an academic pathway to be better prepared to enter the workforce upon graduation. Through career planning activities, students will learn from maintaining e-portfolios to creating and utilizing program maps to engaging in experiential learning. The QEP is designed to achieve three student success outcomes (SSO):

- Students will establish educational and career goals consistent with their interests and abilities.
- Students will develop and articulate an actionable academic plan aligned with their educational and career goals.
- Students will achieve timely progression in attaining their educational and career goals.
How does the QEP impact the College’s Momentum Plan?
The Momentum Plan supports students in deepening their purposeful choices, cultivating productive academic mindsets, maintaining full momentum along a clear pathway, heightening academic engagement, and completing critical milestones. The QEP supports the Momentum Plan by helping students develop a career plan, which is essential for selecting and staying on an academic pathway.

What are the intended outcomes of the QEP?
Beyond achieving the student success outcomes, connecting first-time students’ academic and social experiences to personal growth and career development, the QEP will increase student retention and progression and assist students in completing their degrees on time.

What is the timeline for the QEP?
The QEP represents a five-year plan with a pilot implementation scheduled for the 2021-22 academic year and full implementation commencing in the 2022-23 academic year. The QEP Impact Report, which addresses the extent to which the QEP achieved its goal and outcomes, will be submitted to SACSCOC in September 2027.

Who will monitor the QEP?
The QEP Coordinator will work with the QEP Advisory Council and the COMPASS Center to provide oversight of and make recommendations on the implementation of the QEP. The Council will ensure that focus remains on enhancing student learning and assessing student learning and programmatic outcomes effectively.

What actions will be implemented through the QEP?
Over five years, QEP, COMPASS: Chart Your Course, Integrated Career & Academic Planning will engage first-time student cohorts in career exploration, developing a career goal, and selecting and persisting on an academic pathway to complete their degrees. As the QEP is implemented, the College will:

- Measure first-time students’ degree of belief that they can successfully complete tasks necessary to making career decisions.
- Introduce a computer-assisted career guidance system to help first-time students retrieve information useful for self-assessment and exploration regarding their career development.
- Provide a virtual library orientation to increase students’ information literacy and knowledge of career exploration resources.
- Offer in-class COMPASS presentations to students enrolled in core courses to teach the connections between core courses, why they are taking particular classes, and how they are tied to their future career goals.
- Provide students with individual program maps that include course sequences.
- Encourage students to design and utilize an ePortfolio based on personal growth and development.
- Require students pursuing a baccalaureate degree to complete at least one experiential learning activity to bridge the gap between theory and practice, accelerate learning, and enable personalized learning.
- Connect students with co-curricular programs that are aligned with academic and career planning activities.
- Support and monitor cohort students’ successful accrual of credit hours.

How will the QEP be evaluated?
The College has developed an assessment plan to measure the success of the QEP. It is designed to measure student learning and program effectiveness outcomes and the progress the QEP is making towards meeting its intended goal.

For more information: www.ccca.edu/2022QEP