

# Develop **DREAMS** Excellence and Maximize Success

a newsletter dedicated to our QEP initiative for 2009

## QUARTERLY QUESTIONS ABOUT QEP?

QUALITY  
ENHANCEMENT PLAN

In the first QEP (Quality Enhancement Plan) newsletter, you read about what QEP is all about and the reasons we have one. Also, the newsletter discussed who needed to be involved in the QEP process as well as who would benefit from the QEP. The following paragraphs will attempt to give you a more specific impression of Albany Technical College's QEP.

**Why is having a QEP important?** The intrinsic value to implementing a QEP is to ensure that the college is continuously monitoring and improving areas of student learning; essentially, implementing an approved QEP will inevitably improve the students' quality of learning here at Albany Technical College. Extrinsically, implementing a QEP is a specific requirement set forth by SACS/COC (the organization that accredits institutions such as colleges and universities and allows them to grant awards/degrees). As a part of the reaffirmation process, the SACS/COC committee will be evaluating Albany Tech's QEP.

**What is our QEP?** Albany Tech's QEP is DREAMS: Develop Reading Excellence And Maximize Success. Our QEP is primarily focused on the improvement of students' reading skills that will, in turn, enable them to be successful at a higher level of learning. Albany Tech's SACS liaison, Dr. Marcy Stoll, visited the campus in March 2009 and reviewed the draft of the QEP. The leadership team is currently revising the draft document to address Dr. Stoll's suggestions.

**What is the difference between the QEP and the Title III grant?** The QEP focuses on a

specific component of the Title III grant. While the QEP is narrowly focused on enhancing reading skills through supplemental instruction, the Title III grant targets a much broader spectrum in addition to reading. Math, English, and historically difficult courses such as PSY 101, SCT 100, and AHS courses are included in the Title III grant's focus. Another difference to mention is the fact that the Title III grant and its objectives are already in place – occurring in the Academic Achievement Center in C-321. The QEP has not yet been put into place; on the contrary, it is in the process of being developed and approved.

**When will DREAMS go into effect?** The DREAMS project will officially kick off on January 1, 2010. Preparations are underway now to bring the project into fruition. The college will be conducting an ongoing education and publicity campaign for the QEP. This newsletter is one way of spreading the word and educating the community of Albany Technical College stakeholders about DREAMS.

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