

Lamar Institute of Technology's (LIT) Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP), **ADVANCE LIT** will help to improve the overall process of academic advising and credential attainment through educating both advisors and students to become active participants in the process. The topic of advising and credential attainment was decided upon after looking at institutional retention data, transition data from dual credit to LIT post high-school graduation, as well as multiple surveys involving the community, students, faculty, and staff.

Lamar Institute of Technology has a blended model of advising where students are advised both by faculty as well as a full-time student service advising team. Currently, all students are initially advised by student service advisors upon entering the institution and are then handed off to faculty advisors in the program of study for the remainder of their time at the College. This model will be streamlined to provide for a formal transition from the initial advisor to the faculty advisor to ensure a streamlined process for continued success.

The vision of **ADVANCE LIT** is to create, train for, and implement an intrusive (holistic) advising model that considers each student's success goal. As is well known, student success goals can mean different things depending on the student and their current perceived situation. This model is intended to follow the student from their first contact with the institution until the point of graduation and job placement (or career advancement).

ADVANCE LIT is an acronym for the following, which will help to ensure student success:

- A** – Advising (as stated, intrusive (holistic) advising with emphasis on each student's success goal in mind)
- D** – Developing (high quality advisor training will be developed to increase advisor effectiveness and ensure that each student's time at LIT is maximized for success)
- V** – Validating (many of LIT's students are FTIC, we will continuously validate to the students that they do belong at the college and can be successful)
- A** – Assisting (through intrusive (holistic) advising, we will assist each student in staying on track)
- N** – Navigating (each student will be skillfully "navigated" through the College process from their first contact with the institution all the way through graduation and job placement)
- C** – Coaching (as a student prepares for graduation, we will coach them on effective employment skills such as workplace effectiveness, resume writing, and interviewing skills)
- E** – Educating (both advisors and students will be educated on how to ensure they are active participants in the advising process)

Through ADVANCE LIT, the College will expand on its already rich history of success in the classroom and ensure that advising and career readiness experiences outside the classroom are of the same caliber and expectation.