



Seahawks SOAR

Students Obtaining Achievement in Reading

Lamar State College-Port Arthur

MEMBER **THE TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM™**

QUALITY ENHANCEMENT PLAN

Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges
Reaffirmation Visit

October 29 – November 1, 2012

Executive Summary

In January 2013, Lamar State College-Port Arthur (LSC-PA) will implement the College's Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP), as described by Comprehensive Requirement 2.12 and Comprehensive Standard 3.3.2 in *The Principles of Accreditation: Foundations for Quality Enhancement*. The College's QEP is entitled Seahawks SOAR (Students Obtaining Achievement in Readng). The Seahawks SOAR purpose and Student Learning Outcomes are:

Seahawks SOAR, is to improve students' reading comprehension skills by integrating reading strategies into targeted courses, and by supporting reading-focused activities.

- *Students will comprehend discipline-specific academic reading material.*
- *Students will use appropriate and discipline-specific vocabulary.*
- *Students will gain reading and vocabulary acquisition strategies.*

The QEP Chair and ultimately QEP Co-Directors will provide overall guidance and will work with faculty-driven committees and reading specialists to design, provide and evaluate faculty development activities throughout the five years of the project. Faculty will be trained to teach and evaluate the following reading-comprehension vocabulary-acquisition strategies:

SQ3R	KWL	Selective Underlining/Annotation
Concept Definition Maps	Context/Content Clues	Quizlet

These Strategies will be taught in General Education courses selected for their heavy reading requirement and concentration of incoming freshmen and because they are included in the curriculum for transfer and technical education students.

Seahawks SOAR will begin in January 2013 with Pre-Kickoff training for the faculty, baseline data collection, and trial campus reading activities. Seahawks SOAR will be assessed using a pre-test / post-test experimental design. Nelson Denny reading tests will be administered to five succeeding cohorts of fall freshmen. The Metacognitive Awareness of Reading Strategies Inventory (MARSI) and PSLO Alpha artifact assessment will monitor reading and vocabulary skills in the student body.

The institution will support the project through an engaging website, bulletin boards, reading groups, and special activities. LSCPA has committed a cumulative five-year budget of \$498,776.00 to this project.