



## **The Quality Matters Program Honors Effective Quality Assurance Practices in Online Education to Support Student Learning**

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2011 Making a Difference for Students Award to be presented Nov. 9 at the 3rd Annual Quality Matters Conference in Baltimore

ANNAPOLIS (November 2, 2011)— The Quality Matters Program (QM), a leader in quality assurance for online and blended education, will present its 2011 Making a Difference for Students Awards at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual QM Conference on November 9, 2011 in Baltimore, Maryland.

This award recognizes the individuals or groups that exemplify QM's focus on student learning through the implementation of QM standards, practices and processes that have demonstrated impact on student success.

"These four very different institutions are finding different ways to meet quality standards to improve the learning outcomes for their students. The award recipients represent a broad cross section of education as represented by a winning community college, a 4-year public university, and two 4-year private institutions. Their QM implementation is either broadly transformative in impacting the general student experience in online courses or is significantly and directly meaningful for a specific subset of students" said Deb Adair, Director of Administration for the Quality Matters Program.

The 2011 Making a Difference for Students Award recipients are:

- The University of the District of Columbia is recognized for demonstrating the impact of its QM initiatives on student learning outcomes and for its commitment to build upon this foundation to benefit future online students.
- Beth Hale is recognized for her leadership in Chemeketa Community College's eLearning Quality project and for using QM in a collegial approach to build a campus-wide culture of quality in online teaching and learning for the improvement of student learning.
- Ashford University is recognized for its coordinated, multi-year QM initiative demonstrating a large-scale, positive impact on the quality of online courses.
- Capella University is recognized for its commitment to collaboration and its integration of the QM principle of continuous quality improvement across the organization with the goal of student success.

Details about the awards are available at [www.qmprogram.org](http://www.qmprogram.org)

Information about the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual QM Conference is available at <http://www.qmprogram.org/3rd-annual-conference-2011>

### About QM

Quality Matters (QM) is a faculty-centered, peer review process that is designed to certify the quality of online and blended courses. QM is a leader in quality assurance for online education and has received national recognition for its peer-based approach and continuous improvement in online education and student learning. QM subscribers include community and technical colleges, colleges and universities, K-12 schools and systems, and other institutions that serve the academic community.

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