Winter Term— Simply Electrifying

Winter term will be enlightening and exciting for the Critical Thinking Learning Society and the QEP Implementation Committee. A great deal of this excitement stems from activities that will engage the Broward College community—students, faculty, staff, and administrators.

This term, QEP is dubbed the “Era of E—Execute, Engage, and Enlighten.”

Execute
After a great deal of preparation, the Critical Thinking Learning Society mentors and mentees will implement the critical thinking enhanced teaching and learning strategies. Mentees will implement the strategies in at least one of their courses; whereas, mentors will participate in action research and implement strategies in a single course section, utilizing a second section of the same course as a control.

Engage
To ensure the QEP does not operate in a silo, a major focus for this term is to consistently engage college stakeholders. The first activity was the Adjunct Faculty Orientation at South Campus on Monday, January 6, 2014. Professor Joshua Kimber and QEP District Director, Barbara Rodriguez, provided a QEP: What, Why, and How for 84 engaged participants. Also, the QEP Implementation Committee will encourage faculty to volunteer as mentors and mentees for the Critical Thinking Learning Society 2014-2015 cadre who will formally participate in the QEP, starting in Fall 2014.

Enlighten
Mark your calendars for three renowned, national experts who will facilitate workshops in February, March, and April. In February, Saundra McGuire of Louisiana State University will facilitate interactive workshops that focus on teaching students metacognitive learning strategies. In March, Linda Suskie, the author of one of the bestselling books on assessment in higher education, Assessing Student Learning: A Common Sense Guide, will provide strategies to increase student success. The finale, in April, features, Marilee Bresciani, who will continue the student success theme with a focus on Student Affairs. Space is limited, so registering early through PDT is recommended.

The Office of the QEP appreciates the SPD Committee and the Professional Development & Training department for providing the funding for the experts.

“Doing it Big in Texas”

Professor Trish Joyce
Professor Joshua Kimber

Professor Joyce and Professor Kimber’s proposal was accepted for the 14th Annual Texas A&M Assessment Conference in February. Their proposal, “Working out the Kinks: Applying the Logic Model to the QEP Assessment Plan” discusses Broward College’s process of garnering faculty buy-in and consensus for the QEP’s assessment plan and how Broward College has used the logic model to develop a roadmap for its QEP. Texas A&M’s assessment conference is one of the largest assessment conferences in higher education; this year’s theme is From Credit to Credibility.

“The function of education...is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically.” — Martin L. King, Jr., 1947

To learn more about the QEP, visit www.broward.edu/qep or to ask questions, email qep@broward.edu

Broward College defines critical thinking as a process of evaluating information by questioning and testing assumptions, accepting and rejecting arguments and/or perspectives, and applying reasoning to make informed decisions.