Happy New Year!
2015 is the year of “QEP momentum,” so the Office of the QEP, the Critical Thinking Learning Society, and the QEP Taskforce plan to step it up a notch by engaging more College stakeholders in the QEP process. Activities to foster momentum are underway.

Setting the Right Tone for 2015
At this month’s English department meeting on North Campus, Associate Dean, Karen Parker asked Critical Thinking Emerging Scholars, Drs. Alina Patriche and Michelle Jackson, along with Certified Scholar, Professor Trish Joyce, to facilitate a critical thinking challenge and interactive lesson for faculty (acting as students). Using Salman Rushdie’s provocative essay, “Imagine There’s No Heaven,” QEP Scholars demonstrated how composition students can be encouraged to take a stance as critical readers. When asked to ‘stand and evaluate’ the author’s argument, faculty responded with compelling arguments and active debate. Bringing the QEP to life for faculty met great success!

Be on the Lookout
A QEP professional development opportunity is coming to a campus near you. The QEP faculty are planning and scheduling workshops for Winter term. Professor Trish Joyce will facilitate a roundtable discussion at North Campus on February 17, 2015. Roundtable discussion topics and logistics are forthcoming.

Math faculty get ready to be “math-merized” at this year’s Professional Development Day. Professor Dean Harley of South Campus will facilitate a discipline-specific session. Math faculty will have the opportunity to see how they can explicitly incorporate the QEP’s brand of critical thinking into their courses.

Critical thinking is a necessary and vital skill. —R. Alan Woods

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.