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.

Dr. David Moore and Professor Trish Joyce recently presented Broward's QEP initiative to BC's affiliate, the American College of Dubai (ACD). As part of a two-day professional development workshop series, more than 30 ACD faculty across the disciplines participated in faculty development sessions on such practices as tracking learning outcomes and making critical thinking more transparent in classroom assignments. Using a repository of CT approaches to enhance students' competencies, ACD faculty shared active student engagement techniques and their own reflections on the process.

“Just QEP It!”: The Grand Finale
At North Campus on November 17, 2015, QEP Scholars Victoria Noorzai and Dr. David Perdian facilitated a workshop, which was the grand finale in the North Campus PD Quadrilogy Series. There were 19 participants who had the opportunity to engage in conversations about teaching and learning. One professor shared a take-away that everyone can learn from: “current questions I use in class can be tweaked to improve my students’ critical thinking.” Have you considered tweaking a question or two to increase students’ critical thinking?

Teaching Takeaway
One of the activities English Professor Ana Cowo uses to foster critical thinking focuses on a visual argument. Visual arguments use images to engage viewers and persuade them to accept a particular idea or point of view. This activity is conducted in groups of three. Students (1) look at the picture, (2) make a list of the issues evident in the visual argument and describe the claim(s) and the types of appeal used in the text: Aristotle’s “ingredients for persuasion”— ethos, logos, and pathos, (3) make a list of assumptions that are embedded in the visual argument, and (4) share ideas with the class. This was one of many activities shared during the Just QEP it! workshop, and through application, faculty from multiple disciplines saw how they could use this activity in the classroom.

And the Winners Are....
So remember way back when, when faculty were asked to complete the QEP Faculty Focus Survey? After completing the survey, faculty were given the option to enter their names into a drawing for a Critical Thinking Care Package. The drawing has been conducted and you may be a WINNER. To find out if you won, please watch the quick video. Click on link: Winner...Winner

Think for yourselves and let others enjoy the privilege to do so, too— Voltaire

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