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.

**QEP Scoring Session — Two Thumbs Up!**

The QEP office hosted its third QEP scoring session at South Campus on Saturday, May 30, 2015. Seventeen Broward College administrators, staff, and faculty served as QEP Scorers for the student artifacts (assignments) collected from QEP Scholars. The Fall 2015 term represented the largest collection of student artifacts to date. The artifacts were collected from 29 Scholars, and of those, 40% (197) were selected to be scored, using a stratified sampling technique.

**From the 954 to Worldwide, Dale...**

Pitbull may be “Mr. Worldwide,” but Broward College’s QEP is worldwide as well. During the month of June, Dr. Scott Demsky, QEP Scholar, and Dr. Barbara Rodriguez, QEP District Director, made their marks nationally and internationally.

Dr. Demsky was one of only 70 faculty members nationwide selected to participate in the National Institute for Learning Outcomes Assessment’s (NILOA) advancement of an “Assignment Library” intended to expand the usefulness of the Degree Qualifications Profile (DQP) by demonstrating ways in which creatively crafted course assignments can be used to assess student proficiency. Dr. Demsky created this assignment while participating in the QEP Scholars’ program. When asked by NILOA to provide background and context for the assignment development, Dr. Demsky acknowledged Broward College’s QEP by stating, “In the Fall semester of 2013, Broward College began implementation of its 5-year Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP). One of the goals of the QEP is to enhance students’ critical thinking skills.”

Dr. Rodriguez facilitated two sessions on fostering critical thinking through high impact practices at the 6th Annual Broward College Latin American Conference in Cusco, Peru. The sessions modeled the practices by incorporating active learning strategies, such as Think-Pair-Share.

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

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**Marie Dugan**

**QEP Taskforce Member Reflection**

Students should embrace the concept of critical thinking, as it will help to set themselves apart from their peers. The ability to problem solve, to look at a situation from your unique perspective, allows students to express themselves as individuals. It also teaches students confidence in their thought processes, especially when working in teams or groups. Critical thinking teaches students to be flexible, that problems and situations can change, and our thinking needs to be able to adapt to those changes.

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**Too often we... enjoy the comfort of opinion without the discomfort of thought. – John F. Kennedy**