



El Centro College

DALLAS COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT



Karen Stills, ECC QEP Co-Chair
Paige Bluejacket, ECC SGA President
DCCCD Board of Trustees Meeting
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Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP)

As we seek reaffirmation of our accreditation, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) says in **Core Requirement 2.12**:

- ▶ The institution has developed an acceptable Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) that includes an **institutional assessment** and focuses on **learning outcomes** and/or the **environment supporting student learning** and accomplishing the mission of the institution.



Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP)

The SACSCOC also states in **Comprehensive Standard 3.3.2** that: The institution has developed a Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) that:

1. Demonstrates **institutional capability** for the initiation, implementation, and completion of the QEP.
2. Includes **broad-based involvement** of institutional constituencies in the development and proposed implementation.
3. Identifies **goals and a plan** to assess achievement.



QEP Topic Selection Process

1. Broad Based Involvement & Input

2. Analysis & Evaluation of Assessments

3. Use of Results for QEP Topic Selection



Based on our results, ECC's QEP topic is:

CT³ = Critically Thinking Things Through

Within the five years allotted for the QEP the college will explore, more intensively, ways to explicitly encourage critical thinking that will result in students better prepared to grow and take full value from their learning experiences.



What is Critical Thinking?



El Centro's Working Definition

Critical Thinking is a disciplined and continuous process of asking the right questions and practicing logical thought processes to come to justifiable conclusions.



Why Critical Thinking?



Why Critical Thinking?

- ▶ Data shows that El Centro students have difficulty transitioning into a learning environment where analysis and problem solving are necessary for academic success.
- ▶ New core objectives from the THECB that go into effect in Fall 2014 include critical thinking skills ← our QEP topic!
- ▶ Critical thinking is a core objective required to be incorporated within all core courses.
- ▶ Critical thinking is consistently noted as a highly ranked skill and emerging need from employers.



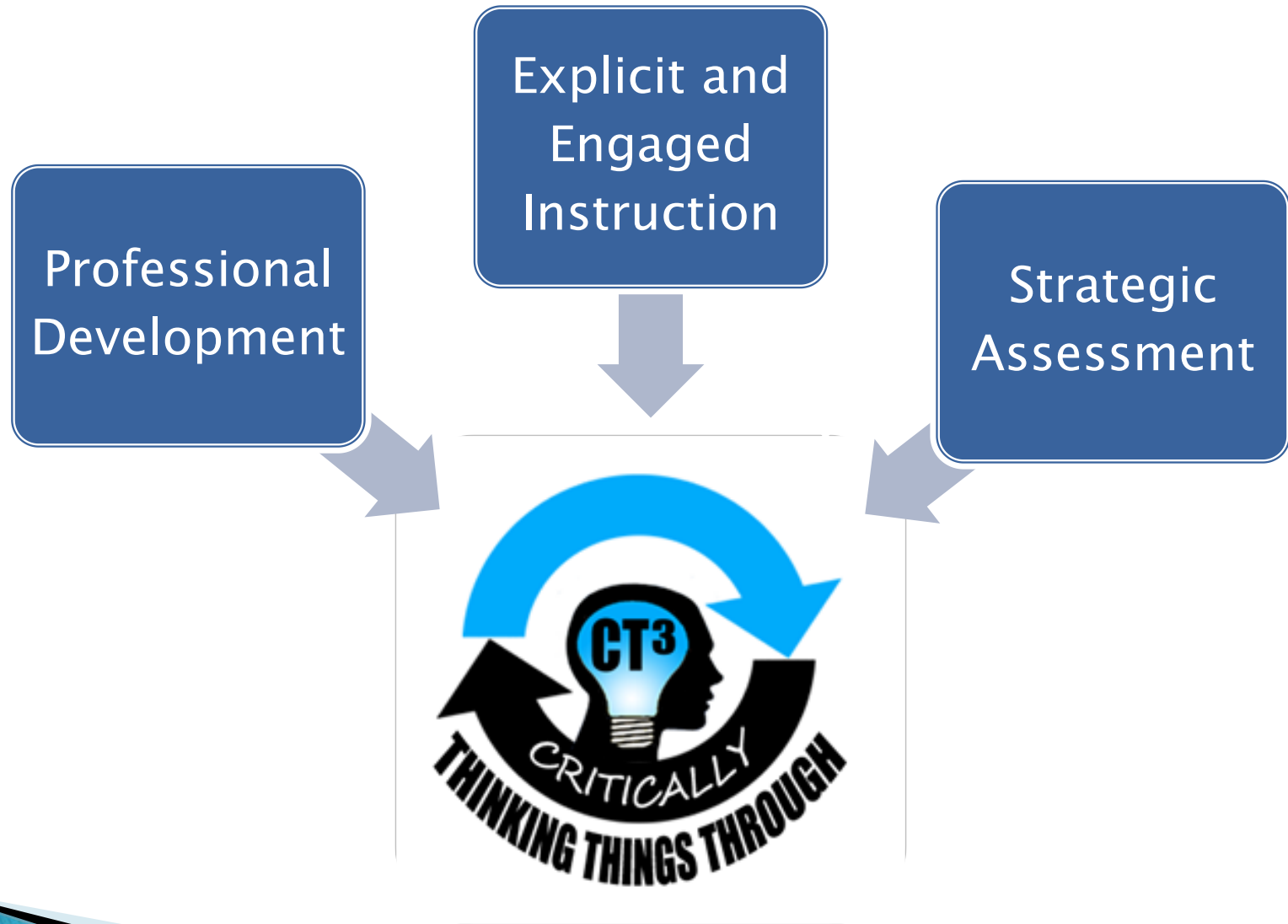
Do we have Learning Outcomes?

Yes! Our plan is designed to improve students' abilities to :

1. Ask pertinent questions that clarify and focus an issue.
2. Identify critical thinking terminology and processes.
3. Evaluate quality, quantity and relevance of information.
4. Formulate well reasoned conclusions and solutions.
5. Implement continuous improvement in thought processes, through reflection.



Implementation Plan



Implementation Plan Highlights

- **Online Critical Thinking Instructional Toolkit**
- **Integration with Student Services**
- **Fun, student-led campus events with critical thinking themes**
- **Intentional CT3 instruction embedded in a selected stream of courses.**



Implementation Plan Highlights

• Progressive CT Instruction

PSYT 1313 / EDUC1300

- Required Freshman Experience Courses
- Pre-Core

ENGL 1301

- Freshman Composition course required for all 29 degree offerings academic and technical
- Tier 1

2000 Level Course

- Sophomore course integration, with focus on higher order levels of thinking.



Budget Needs

- The QEP Budget will cover the following primary expenses:

1. **The Salary of a QEP Director**
2. **Instructional Improvement & Staff Development**
3. **Outcomes Assessment**
4. **Marketing**



Q & A

• Email: ECCQEP@dcccd.edu

Or

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Thank you for your time!

