



# Writing for the Real World: Strengthening Writing and Career Knowledge

## Top 10 Things You Need to Know About the QEP

On October 21-23, 2014 the SACSCOC On-Site Review Committee will visit our College to ask about the QEP.

### 1 What's a "QEP"?

"QEP" stands for "Quality Enhancement Plan." Our College is required by SACSCOC (MDC's accrediting body) to choose a five-year project that will enhance student learning.

### 2 What's our QEP title?

Our QEP title is **"Do the Write Thing."**

### 3 What's our QEP about?

Our topic is **"Writing for the Real World: Strengthening Writing and Career Knowledge."** The overarching goal is to enhance students' workforce readiness through the skill of writing. This QEP will increase student preparation and competitiveness as they enter a workforce that expects effective writing skills.

### 4 Why this topic?

The process of selecting the topic for the QEP started in September 2012. Ideas for the topic originated from the research and feedback provided by the student body and the entire Miami Dade College community. The process included comprehensive college surveys, focus groups, town hall meetings and discussions on all MDC campuses followed by six-month-long data analysis.

### 5 Why should I care about "Doing the Write Thing"?

Studies demonstrate that students with strong writing skills are far more competitive in both the job market and as graduate and professional school candidates. A primary goal of the **"Do the Write Thing"** initiative is to give our students this competitive edge. In addition, engaging in the process of writing produces greater retention, comprehension and assimilation of the subject matter.

### 6 How will the QEP work in my classes?

You can expect many more opportunities to improve student writing skills and career knowledge in your classes.

### 7 What help can I expect outside the classroom?

Resources at Miami Dade College, such as Writing Assistance and Career Services, already help students with writing and learning. With the QEP, additional support opportunities will be provided to support students' writing and career knowledge.

### 8 How are students involved in the planning of the QEP?

In addition to student focus groups, student representation is included on the QEP Planning Committee. Also, Student Government Association members are leading promotional efforts on all campuses.

### 9 When will this all happen?

MDC has been creating the plan and starting to build awareness about it. Once SACSCOC approves MDC's QEP, the program will launch in the Fall Semester 2015. The program will build over five years (2015-2020).

### 10 What is SACSCOC and why do we need to be accredited?

SACSCOC (Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges) is the regional accrediting body for colleges and universities in the southeast. SACSCOC accredits MDC to award degrees. Every 10 years, MDC must be reviewed to get reaccredited so we can:

- maintain our reputation as a quality institution
- make sure that MDC and its programs meet or exceed the same standards as other regionally accredited institutions
- ensure access to federal grants such as funding for student financial aid