The research, analysis, critical thinking and problem solving efforts utilized by Faculty at Collin College to improve learning may also be referred to as the scholarship of assessment. The purpose of this initiative is to encourage dialogue and action concerning how to improve learning through assessment, clearly making this a priority for the institution. The criteria that would allow all full-time Faculty to demonstrate how they are using assessment results to make changes in their strategies for teaching and learning in order to make improvements is developed by faculty leadership from Faculty Council and the Core Objectives Assessment Team. Recipients of this recognition receive an extra service stipend in the amount of $1,500.

ELIGIBILITY
Full-time faculty are eligible to submit an application containing an action plan and may be selected for this scholarly work in assessment each year. However, when submissions of equal quality exceed the number of available awards, priority will be given to faculty who have not received the award in the last three years.

RESPONSIBILITIES
Recipients of the Scholarship of Assessment Recognition are required to give presentations to colleagues across the district during various “Lunch and Learn” activities and Faculty Development days.

CORE CURRICULUM APPLICATION
Completed applications should be reviewed with the Academic Dean and then sent electronically as an attachment to Sarah Densmore at SDensmore@collin.edu. Applications must be directed at either the past academic year’s improvement plan (Critical Thinking) or the upcoming year’s improvement plan (Communication or Social Responsibility) as defined by the Core Objective Assessment Team (COAT).

Core Curriculum Courses
The application will include a two-page summary of an action plan created for a core-curriculum course during the preceding academic year. This summary must include the elements listed below. This summary should include:

1. Targeted improvements in one of the rubric elements (to be selected each year)
2. SLO specific to the course
3. Changes implemented in response to the assessment results in order to close the loop
4. Descriptions concerning how the changes impacted student learning
5. Analysis of the positive and/or negative outcomes of the implemented changes with continued development of revised or new learning strategies

A copy of learning activities that were used in support of the action plan must be a part of the application. Attach a cover sheet to the front of the application that lists the applicant’s name, phone number and email address. Do not include any identifying information on any other documents submitted. (Any faculty chosen for the award who elected to submit an action plan for a rubric element designed for improvement during the upcoming year will need to submit a follow-up report. This follow-up report will need to explain the actual results (4 & 5) of elements 1 & 3 during the Spring Semester.)

Workforce and Other Non-Core Curriculum Courses
The application will include a two-page summary of an action plan created for a workforce or other non-core curriculum course during the preceding academic year. This summary should include:
1. Targeted improvements in a course or program from the previous year’s assessment of student learning
2. SLO specific to the course or program
3. Changes planned in response to the assessment results in order to close the loop
4. Descriptions concerning how the changes impacted student learning
5. Analysis of the positive and/or negative outcomes of the implemented changes with continued development of revised or new learning strategies

A copy of learning activities that were used in support of the action plan must be a part of the application. Attach a cover sheet to the front of the application that lists the applicant’s name, phone number and email address. Do not include any identifying information on any other documents submitted.

SELECTION PROCESS
Scholarship of Assessment applications will be assessed by a subcommittee of COAT members and the coordinator of faculty development. Individuals who submit an application may not serve on the selection committee. Recommendations for selection will be submitted to the Executive Assistant for the District Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs and Student Development. A member of the Vice President Team will review finalist applications with the appropriate Academic Deans in order to obtain input concerning the recommendations.

TIMELINE
Applicants must submit the entire application electronically to Sarah Densmore at SDensmore@collin.edu by July 1st. Awardees will be announced at the August Faculty Development Conference.

PREVIOUS SCHOLARSHIP of ASSESSMENT RECIPIENTS
- **Amina El-Ashmawy (Chemistry)**, “Critical Thinking” (2014)
- **Cindy Briggs (Management)**, “How Communication Contributes to Effective Management” (2014)
- **Kelley Reynolds (Respiratory Therapy)**, “Certification Exam” (2014)
- **Kerry Byrnes (Speech)**, “Personal Responsibility” (2014)
- **Kimberly Harris (Music)**, “Critical Thinking” (2014)
- **Matthew Coulter (History)**, “Critical Thinking” (2014)
- **Mindi Bailey (Humanities)**, “Critical Thinking” (2014)
- **Rebecca Orr (Biology)**, “Critical Thinking” (2014)
- **Stefanie Cain (Criminal Justice)**, “Identify Agencies, Personnel, and Practices” (2014)
- **Tyler Young (Political Science)**, “Personal & Social Responsibility” (2014)
- **Whitney Pisani (Speech)**, “Critical Thinking” (2014)
- **William Geisler (Government)**, “Critical Thinking” (2014)