

**DCCCD Incentive Funding
Retention Awards
Executive Summary**

Seed Awards:

**History Assessment & Professional Development Workshop
Richland College**

Award Principal Coordinators: Ambronita Douzart and Amy Bell

Collaboration: BHC, CVC, EFC, MVC and NLC

Award Amount: \$41,750 Award Period: 4 semesters

In the fall of 2007, the Richland College History faculty undertook a new assessment to evaluate how well students could understand and appreciate varying points of view, an essential element that students need to demonstrate in order to successfully complete their courses in history. As a consequence of the assessment, a determination was made that the traditional methodologies employed in the teaching of history had to be revamped. Instead of focusing on a “one thing after another” approach, faculty would need to employ historiographic and thematic teaching methodologies—a significant paradigm shift for many instructors.

The purpose of the award is to hold a series of faculty-led workshops, focusing on best practices both within and without the District, which will aid all history faculty members (including adjuncts) in the Dallas County Community College District to make this significant shift in methodologies. Successful implementation of these new pedagogical approaches will result not only in greater success and retention for students, but also a greater cultural awareness that will help them excel in today’s rapidly changing global community.