Engaging the Campus Community in Common Reading Programs

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36th Annual Conference on the First-Year Experience
February 2017
Session Outline

• Brief overview – Providence College
• Roundtable conversations
• Large group discussion
Audience Poll

http://bit.ly/2kk9CHr
Providence College

- Established 1917
- Located in Providence, RI
- 4,400 FTE
- Catholic, private liberal arts institution
- Primarily residential student population
- Popular majors: Biology, Marketing, Finance, Psychology
PC Common Reading Program
Engaging Our Community

- Committee membership
- New students – book discussions
- Events/programs
- Contests
The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks
HeLa Tours
Malala Visit to Providence
Promoting Common Reading – Social Media

Congratulations, Kelly Atkinson! You just won a $5 Gift Card to Dunkin Donuts! Thanks for posting a picture to Instagram! #friarbook
Student Essay Contest

• Regular prompts on social media
• Review committee led by Writing Center director
• Faculty/staff judges
• Recognition at Freshman Family Weekend event

Countdown: 6 days left to submit your essay! $300, $200, and $100 cash prizes!
Congratulations to Andrew Liam Dillon on winning the first Trivia Tuesday Contest!
Small Group Discussion

• https://etherpad.net/p/Common_Reading

• Question 1: How has your institution engaged community members in your Common Reading Program?

• Question 2: What barriers, if any, make it difficult to engage your campus community in your Common Reading Program?

• Question 3: What strategies might you propose to remove potential barriers or otherwise engage campus communities in Common Reading Programs?
Further Questions/Comments...

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