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THE COMMON BOOK PROGRAM



What?

- All incoming first-year students asked to read a single book
- Discussion groups, events before classes begin
- Book is incorporated into a range of classes during the fall
- More information, Barbara Fister, "One Book, One College: Common Reading Programs"
<http://homepages.gac.edu/~fister/onebook.html>

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Why?

- Improved Graduation Rate Task Force, Spring 2009
<http://www.auburn.edu/academic/provost/story.html?1232062689016572>
- Research links connections between first-year students & faculty with persistence
- Enrollment Management Council—
Increased Student Retention

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Committee Structure

- Constance Relihan, Chair
- Nancy McDaniel, Educational Support Services, Co-Chair
- Ainsley Carry, Student Affairs, Convocation Chair
- Faculty member or Academic Associate Dean from each College
- Representatives from Faculty Senate, SGA, Honors College, Multicultural Center, OCM
- Also added: Parents' Association, Bookstore, Writing Program, Muslim Students' Association, others on an *ad hoc* basis

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Committee Membership

(as of today!)

- Constance Relihan, CLA
- Nancy McDaniel, Acad. Support
- Ainsley Carry, Student Affairs
- Shakir Abdullah, Multicultural Center
- Camille Barkley, OCM
- Marcia Boosinger, Library
- Ron Clark, COB
- Mike Clardy, OCM
- Margaret Craig-Schmidt, Human Sciences
- John Dagley, Education
- Jordan Dailey, SGA
- Kathryn Flynn, University Senate
- Paul Harris, Honors College
- Amy Hecht, Student Affairs
- Margaret Marshall, University Writing Programs
- Mary Ellen Hendrix, Parents' Association
- Joe Morgan, Engineering
- Rebecca O'Neal-Dagg, Architecture
- Paul Patterson, Agriculture
- Ruthanna Payne, Academic Support
- Kimberley Raines, Nursing
- Michelle Sidler, English Composition Program
- Greg Somers, Forestry & Wildlife
- Larry Wit, COSAM

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Sub-Committees at Work

- Promotion Committee
- Faculty Development and Curriculum Committee
- Co-Curricular and Welcome Week Committee
- Convocation Committee
- Outreach and Service Learning Committee
- Assessment Committee

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Book Selection and Program Goals

(3 books were recommended to the Provost that met these requirements:)

1. promote intellectual community on campus (to aid in retention)
2. help students gain a global/broad perspective
3. promote a culture of service
4. emphasize individual empowerment/the need for hard work
5. prompt the academic engagement students will need for success during their AU careers.
6. be able to link to a range of programming during 2010-2011

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In short--

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... to our potential

... to our community

...to our world

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The Choice--

Greg Mortenson & David Oliver Relin, *Three Cups of Tea: One Man's Mission to Promote Peace... One School at a Time* (Penguin, 2006)

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Current Plans

- Course adoptions: UNIV 1000 & 1050, ENGL 1100, Learning Communities, others?
- Faculty Development for Faculty Members
- Publicize to AU Community, Incoming students, parents
- University events: Mortenson visit, Welcome Week discussion groups, service projects, consular visits, College and department-based programs?

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How can you participate?

Faculty Development Workshop

February 18
9-11:30 am
2218 AUSC
email lwc0003@auburn.edu to reserve a seat

Include the book on your Fall syllabus

Encourage students to attend events

Plan an event or activity for your Department or College

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Let me know if you want to help--

Constance Relihan, Sr. Assoc. Dean for Academic Affairs
& Professor of English
College of Liberal Arts
331 F Tichenor
844-2188
relihco@auburn.edu

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