Deliberation & Debate: Advancing Civil Discourse through First-Year Courses

July 12–15, 2020
Washington, DC

Draft Agenda (as of February 6, 2020)

Workshop goals:

- Develop expertise in integrating strategies and practices that promote learning and civil discourse in first-year courses
- Build confidence in facilitating discussions on controversial topics in the classroom
- Showcase successes and lessons learned from several institutions’ experiences
- Create curriculum-planning opportunities for participating faculty members with peers from other campuses

Sunday, July 12

1:00 p.m.   Registration

3:00 p.m.   Opening Session
            Welcome and Introduction
            Richard Ekman, President, CIC
            Michael Gilligan, Senior Advisor, CIC

            One College’s Experience with Campus Conflict
            Eileen Wilson-Oyelaran, President Emerita, Kalamazoo College

4:00 p.m.   Setting the Stage about the First-Year Experience and Courses that Prepare Students for Success in College and in Life
            Presenter: Kathy Whatley, Senior Advisor for Academic Programs, CIC

4:45 p.m.   Break

5:00 p.m.   Who’s in the Room: Brief Team Introductions

6:15 p.m.   Reception
7:00 p.m.   Dinner and Keynote Address

Title TBA

Walter Sinnott-Armstrong, Chauncey Stillman Professor of Practical Ethics, Duke University

Drawing on his recent book, Think Again: How to Reason and Argue (2018), Sinnott-Armstrong will discuss strategies to argue in more constructive ways and the logic behind these methods.

Monday, July 13

8:00 a.m.   Breakfast

9:00 a.m.   Principles of Debate and Argumentation

Presenter: Daniel Fitzmier, Senior Lecturer in the School of Communication and Director of the Northwestern Debate Society, Northwestern University

10:45 a.m.   Break

11:00 a.m.   Bringing Debate to Writing, Orientation to College, and Big Ideas Courses

Presenter: Daniel Fitzmier

12:15 p.m.   Lunch

Participants will meet with colleagues in similar roles at other institutions.

2:30 p.m.   Workshop on Curricular Design

Facilitators: Michael Gilligan and presenters

Participants will consider strategies of debate in courses for first-year students, first in individual college teams, then in groups of similar institutions.

4:00 p.m.   Break

4:15 p.m.   Reports from the Workshop

Facilitators: Michael Gilligan and presenters

Participants will share the results of their curricular collaborations with the whole group.

5:30 p.m.   Reception

6:30 p.m.   Dinner on Your Own

Tuesday, July 14

8:00 a.m.   Breakfast
9:00 a.m.  **Principles of Deliberative Pedagogy**  
*Presenter: Sarah Mehltretter Drury*, Associate Professor of Rhetoric and Director of Democracy and Public Discourse, Wabash College

10:45 a.m.  **Break**

11:00 a.m.  **One College’s Experience with Deliberation and Community Engagement**  
*Presenter: Sarah Mehltretter Drury*

12:15 p.m.  **Lunch**

3:00 p.m.  **Workshop on Curriculum Development**  
*Facilitators: Michael Gilligan and presenters*

*How can courses for first-year students incorporate strategies for deliberation and engagement? Participants will work in small groups of institutions, then bring ideas to the larger group.*

5:00 p.m.  **Break**

5:45 p.m.  **Dinner**

**Debate Argumentation at Historically Black Colleges and Universities**  
*Angela Minor*, Associate Professor in the School of Communications and Director of the Dr. Martin L. King, Jr. Forensics Programs, Howard University

*Wednesday, July 15*

8:00 a.m.  **Breakfast**

9:00 a.m.  **Dealing with Difference**  
*Presenter: Debra Mashek*, Executive Director, Heterodox Academy

10:15 a.m.  **Break**

10:30 a.m.  **Next Steps for Individual Colleges, Planning for 2021, and Closing Remarks**  
*Presenter: Michael Gilligan*

11:30 a.m.  **Workshop Adjourns**

*This project is generously supported by the Charles Koch Foundation.*