

ConnectED: An Academic Library Program Designed to Support and Engage Students

August 18, 2021

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I view the academic library as a place for connections, curiosity, and collaboration. ConnectED: A Penn State York Library First-Year Experience combines these elements with programming to provide both academic and social engagement for all students.



<https://sites.psu.edu/connected/>



<https://paforward.org/>

How can an academic library foster conditions that help students become academically engaged?

“Students can be surrounded by impressive resources and not routinely encounter classes or take part in activities that engage them in authentic learning” (Kuh, 2003, pp. 24–25).

- Design programs to help students develop skills and strategies that can improve their competence and confidence.
- Design programs that use the library’s resources in a meaningful way. Students will have more of a desire to engage with library resources if they feel they are relevant and if they are able to experience success and develop confidence using them.



TED Talks
Faculty Presentations
Replicating Research
Trivia

How can an academic library foster conditions that help students become socially engaged?

“Having social events in the library provides opportunities to showcase the library as a welcoming environment – opportunities for students to meet, and hopefully make friends with, other students, and opportunities for students to interact with faculty and staff” (Eshbach, 2020, pp. 3-4).

- Design programs just for the purpose of having fun and connecting with others.
- Design programs to encourage the interaction between students and the faculty and staff. These interactions, however small, widen a student’s support system and can help create a sense of belonging.



Marathon Reads
Silent Reading Party
Pleased to Meet You!
Student-led Events

“The more students are academically and socially engaged with other people on campus . . . the more likely (other things being equal) they will stay and graduate from college (Tinto, 2012, p.64).

BASIC LITERACY	BASIC: Marathon Reads, Faculty Book Talks, Common Reads, Silent Reading Party, Human Library
INFORMATION LITERACY	INFORMATION: TED Talks, Faculty Presentations, Replicating Research
CIVIC AND SOCIAL LITERACY	CIVIC & SOCIAL: Community Presenters, Constitution Day Trivia, Night Against Procrastination
HEALTH LITERACY	HEALTH: Steps to the Library, Collaboration with Campus Counselor, Stress Relief
FINANCIAL LITERACY	FINANCIAL: Community Presenters, Campus Faculty and Staff Presentations

Assessment

Project Outcome for Academic Libraries

<https://acrl.projectoutcome.org/>

ACRL provides this free online toolkit designed to help academic libraries assess and communicate the impact of essential library programs and services.

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Kuh, G.D. (2003). What we're learning about student engagement from NSSE: Benchmarks for effective educational practices. *Change: The Magazine of Higher Learning*, 35(2), 24-32.

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