

Program Goals

1. Provide an introduction to the expectations of higher education
2. Project high institutional expectations
3. Provide a common intellectual experience
4. Build institutional community

Book

Granny D: You're Never Too Old to Raise a Little Hell by Doris Haddock and Dennis Burke

Book Description

In February 2000, ninety-year-old Doris “Granny D” Haddock became a national heroine when she completed her 3,200-mile, fourteen-month walk from Los Angeles to Washington, D.C., to bring attention to the issue of campaign finance reform.

Granny D recalls and celebrates an exuberant life of love, activism, and adventure—from one-woman feminist plays in the thirties, to stopping nuclear testing near an Eskimo fishing village in 1963, to her current crusade. Threaded throughout is the spirit of her beloved hometown in New Hampshire—Thornton Wilder’s inspiration for Grover’s Corners in *Our Town*—a quintessentially American center of New England pluck, Yankee ingenuity, and can-do attitude.

Told in Doris’s vivid and unforgettable voice, *Granny D* will move and delight readers with its clarion message that one person can indeed make a difference.

Target Population

All new students entering fall 04 and their parents/supporters

Program Design

1. New students *and their parents/supporters* will be asked to read the book during the summer.
2. During SAP (Summer Advising Program, July) students will receive PREFACE packets
3. As part of fall orientation, WOW’s Academic Day (9/15), students will participate in a 1 hr. small group discussion lead by volunteer faculty/staff/community discussion facilitators.
4. During Parent’s Weekend (10/15) the author will visit Cal Poly for a free campus wide and community public presentation.

Small Group Discussion

The small group discussions will take place on Wednesday, September 15, 2004, Academic Day of WOW. The discussions will be 1 hour and take place first thing in the morning in the established WOW groups. Following the discussions, students will proceed to their respective colleges and academic department meetings.

Author Presentation

Co-sponsored with the Parent Program and “Provocative Perspectives;” Doris Haddock and Dennis Burke together will make two free public presentations.

1. Volunteer discussions facilitators and “Provocative Perspectives” faculty/staff (10/14 am).
2. General campus and the SLO county community. This event will coincide with Parents Weekend (10/15 pm) so that parents may also hear the author speak.

The Cal Poly Shared Reading Program

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