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In PLACE: September 8, 2017

PLACE

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IN *PLACE*

September 8th, 2017

Welcome to the PLACE newsletter! We will send out bi-monthly emails during the 2017-18 academic year to keep you informed about everything PLACE-related. We'll try to keep these relatively short and focused, while also providing useful information about PLACE activities happening throughout the Linfield community and ways to bring the program into your classes.

Want a primer on PLACE? Check out the description [here](#).

PLACE and What's the Big Idea?

What's the Big Idea is a student-faculty learning community that hosts a series of discussions over dinner throughout the academic year. The meetings themselves focus on selected PLACE readings from a wide range of academic disciplines. The overarching goal of WTBI is to help students appreciate the excitement of an engaged intellectual life. WTBI also provides students and faculty with a valuable opportunity to meaningfully interact outside of the classroom. If you are a faculty member who would like to form a WTBI group, David Sumner would like to help. Please contact him by email: dsumner@linfield.edu.

Spotlight On: The First Year Experience

We are seeking ways to leverage PLACE to augment the First Year Experience and Colloquium. Our overarching objective for this year is to create a basic model that can be replicated in future years to reduce everybody's workload while providing our students with a meaningful, distinctive learning experience. Our primary learning goals for this segment of the Colloquium program are as follows:

- To familiarize first year students with the Linfield Curriculum, PLACE, and what it means to receive a liberal arts education.
- To engage students in meaningful dialogue that will facilitate their getting to know one another and the Faculty and Peer Advisors.
- To provide Faculty and Peer Advisors with the opportunity to model successful ways first year students might engage with texts, prepare for class, and engage in respectful dialogue in a classroom setting.
- To highlight the relationship between liberal arts education and civic engagement in applied contexts.

As such, rather than assigning a book over the summer, this year we are experimenting with having students read a series of short, thought-provoking articles on topics related to the PLACE theme, “The Digital Citizen.” This new programming will consist of a 3-week series of assigned readings, suggested activities, and events. A short summary follows.

Our PLACE Theme in the News

As you know, this year we are using the theme of “the Digital Citizen” as a muse to explore the important relationship between the liberal arts and civic engagement.

<https://medium.com/@carlzimmer/lets-not-lose-our-minds-c5dcac29e97f>

<https://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2017/09/has-the-smartphone-destroyed-a-generation/534198/>

<https://www.theatlantic.com/politics/archive/2017/09/vladimir-putin-master-of-identity-politics/539058/>

Watch for future newsletters to learn more about PLACE events, teaching resources, and details on your PLACE Faculty/Student Fellows! Thanks for reading, and please feel free to send me questions and suggestions.