ConnectED
A Penn State York Library First Year Experience

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Retention: an institutional measure

Persistence: a student measure

Models can serve as guides to help us better understand retention & persistence. You can still see elements of Vincent Tinto's landmark model of institutional departure being used today, as in the example below:

Factors Influencing Retention	Examples
Individual Level	
Academic Performance	College GPA and academic performance, high school GPA, course load and credits earned, academic self-discipline
Attitudes and Satisfaction	Positive attitude about academics, commitment to college, sense of belonging and social connectedness
Institutional Level	
Academic Engagement	Undergraduate research activities, university size, opportunities to join clubs
Social and External Level	
Social and Family Support	Faculty and staff support, family support, familiar and authentic cultural environment, sense of belonging and community, mattering or sense of importance

(Jensen, 2011, p.2)

First-semester **challenges**:
1. Academic challenges
2. Social challenges
3. Challenges of responsibility
4. Challenges of independence
5. Physical challenges
6. Time management challenges
7. Life challenges
8. Financial challenges
9. Challenge of balance

Retrieved from http://www.collegeparents.org

First-Year Seminars & Experiences are considered **High-Impact Educational Practices**

There is "evidence to indicate that classroom and nonclassroom experiences that introduce students to issues of **diversity**, other than those just based on race or ethnicity (e.g. diversity of political or religious views, diversity focused on social class or sex, value diversity, background diversity of friendships, and the like) also enrich and enhance the impact of college" (Pascarella, 2006, p. 511).

A "**sense of belonging** positively influences academic achievement, retention, and persistence" (Strayhorn, 2012, p. 9).

ACRL
Value of Academic Libraries: A Comprehensive Research Review and Report

NSSE
national survey of student engagement

I connected with _____
at the First National Personal Librarian & First Year Experience Library Conference and discovered we have the following in common:

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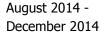

The ConnectED Pilot Program – Fall 2014

To what extent can participation in a library first-year experience increase student engagement in our commuter campus community and support academic success?

Summer 2014 — Introduction to the ConnectED program through a series of 30 minute workshops presented to all incoming students attending New Student Orientation. Students make their first connections and bring their completed ConnectED cards to the library.

August 2014 - December 2014 — First-year students receive points for participation in ConnectED events and also receive stickers to place on their game board.

Embedded librarian in developmental basic writing skills class. Both sections take the ACT Engage College Survey.

Students continue making connections, completing ConnectED cards, and bringing them to the library throughout the Fall semester.

Ongoing data collection

December 2014 — Basic writing skills classes take ACT Engage College Survey

ConnectED winner is announced and scholarship is awarded!

The winner! $2,014.00

First National Personal Librarian & First Year Experience Library Conference
April 7, 2014

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