Readership WT
Ambassadors
Connecting the Common Reader Program with Study Abroad
West Texas A&M University
Fourth year for common reader program

- *A Hope in the Unseen*, 2005
- *What Should I Do with My Life?*, 2006
- *Night*, 2007
- *What is the What*, 2008
98% of all freshmen indicated they read the book.
80% of all freshmen indicated they enjoyed discussing the book in class.
69% of all freshmen indicated they discussed the book with peers and faculty outside of class.
80% of all freshmen indicated the book exposed them to new ideas and shaped their worldviews.
98% of all freshmen indicated the author’s presence on campus motivated them to study harder.
Assessment of Readership WT

98% of all freshmen indicated the program motivated them to be successful in college.
100% of all freshmen were connected before fall semester by a peer leader and invited to participate in group discussions via Facebook.
Readership WT
Promotion on Campus
Promotion on Campus

- First-year students receive text at orientation
- Facebook discussions
- Author or Subject serve as Convocation speaker
- Assignments in Core Classes
- Service Learning

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A Night to Remember
Elie Wiesel engages the WTAMU Campus Community
Readership WT
Essay Contest
“In the footsteps of Elie Wiesel”
Freshmen students given opportunity to enter essay contest

- Chance to retrace Elie Wiesel’s footsteps in Poland
- Discuss how Night impacted their life
- Promoted in Core Classes
158 freshmen submitted essays.
50 freshmen were interviewed.
20 freshmen were selected.
Readership WT - Essay Contest

expenses for students selected.
Assessment of Readership WT

76% of Readership WT Ambassadors were first-generation students.
Readership WT
Ambassadors
International Studies Course

West Texas A&M University
Readership WT – International Studies Course

- Syllabus
- Student Contract
- Students were divided up into three small groups
- Group presentations on various topics
- Research papers discussing Poland and sites to be seen
- Connections made among students
- Bon Voyage Reception
- Blog
Angela Baker
Amarillo, Tx
Undeclared

Caitlin Carter
Sundown, Tx
Biology

Alyson Cantu
Crosbyton, Tx
Biology

Adriana Conteras
Amarillo, Tx
Mass Comm. - Broadcasting

Cristin Day
Canyon, Tx
History

Wes Condray
Lubbock, Tx
Political Science

Monica Dozal
Canyon, Tx
Mass Comm. - Broadcasting

Marc Dunbar
Plano, Tx
Music

Desiree Escoto
Amarillo, Tx
Criminal Justice

Janelle Gross
Albuquerque, Nm
Nursing

Katie Gustainis
Aubrey, Tx
Speech

Eva Harder
Seminole, Tx
Speech

Diana Hernandez
Amarillo, Tx
General Studies

Allan Kahn
Plano, Tx
Theatre

Marisela Rodriguez
Amarillo, Tx
Nursing

Lindsey Steele
Bozeman, Tx
Psychology

Allison Tindall
Borger, Tx
Theatre

Kelsey Wilson
Amarillo, Tx
Nursing

West Texas A&M University
Kazimierz
Krakow Jewish Ghetto
Auschwitz and Birkenau Concentration Camps
Krakow
A lesson in Culture
Resistance
Pledge
of the
Readership WT
Preamble:
I will not hate the hands which do not hold the truths I hold, I will not hate the eyes which do not see what I see, I will not hate the hearts which do not believe what I believe, and I will not hate the skin which covers all of the above, skin which is different from my own. I
Pledge:

To... remember...is to
Pledge:
To... be accountable
Pledge:

To... finish my degree...is to
Pledge:
To be intellectually active...is to...
Pledge:

To... dream

...is to
Pledge:

To... tolerate... is to
Pledge:

To... forgive

...is to
Pledge:

To excel as an intellectual in and out of the classroom is to...
Pledge:

To... speak up and refute injustice is to
Pledge:

To speak truth to power is to
Pledge:
To teach compassion is to...
Pledge:

To... listen...is to
Pledge:

To stand up for oneself, even when alone... is to...
Pledge:

To hope...

...is to
Pledge:

To... refuse apathy...is to
Pledge:

To refuse complacency is to...
Pledge:

to...

take action

...is to
Pledge:

To... be a catalyst is to
Pledge:

To... put others before ourselves... is to ourselves

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Readership WT
Ambassadors
Intellectual Activism
Readership WT Ambassadors - Intellectual Activism

- Community Presentations
- No Shoes Day
- Displace Me
- Town Hall Meetings
- Dinner with the Homeless

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Readership WT 2008

What is the What

Dave Eggers

West Texas A&M University
What is the What

Building classroom space in Sudan through purchase of books

Campus discussions on:
  - Darfur
  - AIDS
  - Racism

Trip to Africa, March 2009
Readership WT
The Process
Readership WT - Process

- Fundraising
- Assessment and results
- Planning
Readership WT
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