Common Reader Program

Mission Statement:

The Palm Beach State College Common Reader Program creates an environment where students become part of a common experience with other students. The objective of the Common Reader Program is to develop a sense of community and to promote discussions that are in keeping with the College’s General Education and Institutional Learning Outcomes.

Title selection procedure:

- Common Reader Committee meets to discuss selection of new title for upcoming year.
- Recommendations solicited from faculty, staff, and students through college-wide email.
- Committee meets to discuss recommended books and votes to create a top five list.
- College-wide vote of top five list conducted online.
- Common Reader announced through an all user email with instructions for signing up.
- Copies distributed to participating classes.
- Lectures, discussions, and other events scheduled to encourage dialogue about issues raised in the book.

Criteria for title recommendations:

- Living or local authors
- Less than 300 pages
- Not too expensive
- Fiction or non-fiction
- Relevant to a wide range of disciplines
- Relatable to students
- Themes that include diversity, critical thinking, overcoming personal obstacles, academic/career/life success

General Education Learning Outcomes:

Communications: Demonstrate effective communication skills for a variety of audiences.

Humanities: Demonstrate an awareness of and an ability to effectively analyze creative works.

Mathematics: Demonstrate an understanding of mathematical concepts to solve real-world problems.

Natural Sciences: Demonstrate comprehension of fundamental concepts, principles or processes about the natural world.

Social Sciences: Understand and apply sociological, cultural, political, psychological, historical and economic principles to a global environment.
Institutional Learning Outcomes:

**Critical Thinking**: Engage in purposeful reasoning to reach sound conclusions.

**Ethics**: Demonstrate the ability to make informed decisions based on ethical principles and reasoning.

**Global Awareness**: Exhibit a sense of social, cultural and global responsibility.

**Information Literacy**: Demonstrate the ability to find, evaluate, organize and use information.