FIRST YEAR Experience

CONVERSATION STARTERS for parents

HOW TO START A CONVERSATION ABOUT THE FOUNDATIONAL CORE

(Ask around mid-semester.)

- What is the theme of your writing seminar?
- What have you been reading connected to the theme of your writing seminar?
- How is the transition from high-school to college writing?
- Have you visited the Writing Center in The Learning Commons for any of your papers?
- What department is your writing professor part of?
- Which spring seminar connected with your fall seminar? Have you met your spring seminar professor?

HOW TO START A CONVERSATION ABOUT FIRST YEAR ADVISING

(Ask around mid-semester.)

- What is your writing seminar professor's approach to advising?
- When are your faculty advisor's office hours? How often do you use them?
- When does registration for spring classes start? How does registration work?

HOW TO START A CONVERSATION ABOUT THE FIRST YEAR LEARNING COMMUNITY

- How was the final day of Orientation? How was MyStory?
- How was Convocation? (Ask after August 21st.)
- What is the big question for the Open Table Conversation in September? ...October? ...November?
- Where have you made the best connections with people this semester?
- I've heard there is a Week 3 check-in for all first-year students. How did that go? (Ask after September 4th.)
- I've heard there is a Week 6 check-in for all first-year students. How did that go? (Ask after September 25th.)
- I've heard there is a Week 9 check-in for all first-year students. How did that go? (Ask after October 16th.)

