



Campus Reading Celebration Task Force

CAMPUS READING CELEBRATION

Presented By:

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Purpose and Overview



The purpose of the Campus Reading Celebration is to provide an annual opportunity for the entire campus community to share in a common intellectual experience. This is accomplished by both inviting all member of the campus community (students, faculty, staff and administrators) to read the same book, as well as engage in dialogue in both formal and informal venues about the book throughout the academic year.

By participating in a CSUCI program that combines both curricular and co-curricular elements, the campus community has an opportunity to engage in open dialogue relating to: multicultural and international perspectives, interdisciplinary education, service learning and civic engagement.

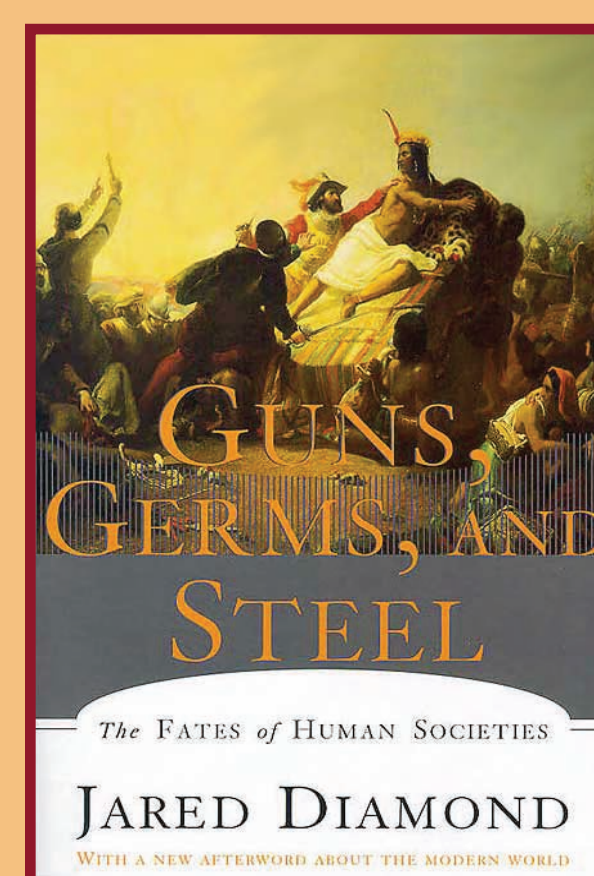
A Unique Component

Many students at CSUCI have never attended an event in which they've had the opportunity to encounter the author of a book they have read. The Campus Reading Celebration attempts to give them not only a chance to hear the author read a bit from their work and talk about that work, but also a substantial opportunity to interact with that author. By providing students an opportunity to see that books are not dead artifacts, but vibrant entities with which they can interact through reading, thinking, discussing with peers, professors, their families and friends in formal and informal settings, we seek to empower them to become engaged readers who incorporate books into their frameworks for critical thinking. Encountering the author of a book they have had the chance to read, then think about and discuss, is the culmination of this experience.



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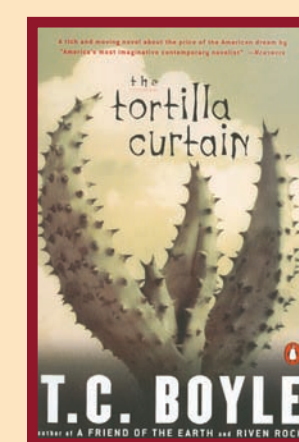
Spotlight on 2007 Celebration



Jared Diamond convincingly argues that geographical and environmental factors shaped the modern world. A major advance in our understanding of human societies, *Guns, Germs, and Steel* chronicles the way that the modern world came to be and stunningly dismantles racially based theories of human history.

Winner of the Pulitzer Prize, the Phi Beta Kappa Award in Science, the Rhone-Poulenc Prize, and the Commonwealth Club of California's Gold Medal. Dr. Diamond will visit the CSUCI campus in November 2007.

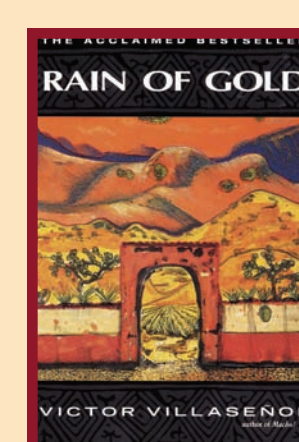
Past Selections



2006 - *The Tortilla Curtain* by T. C. Boyle. This novel tells parallel stories of a couple from Mexico who are undocumented and living a hardscabble existence camping in a canyon below a gated community where the other main characters--an upper-middle-class white couple--live. This exciting event generated a great deal of interest within the campus community.



2005 - *The Open Space of Democracy* by Terry Tempest Williams. This book links the necessity of wilderness and open space with the dreams and potential of democracy. During her visit to campus, Williams gave two very moving presentations which audience members were still talking about weeks later.



2004 - *Rain of Gold* by Victor Villaseñor. This book chronicles a Mexican immigrant family in California across three generations of setbacks and upward mobility. Villaseñor's campus visit drew over 600 members of the campus and local community.

Assessment

Through a post-event evaluation, individuals that attended the Campus Reading Celebration event are asked to report their level of satisfaction and reflect upon the degree to which intended learning objectives were met. The 2006 evaluation revealed a successful (self reported) achievement of four of the seven objectives and an 84% positive satisfaction rate.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

All members of the campus community will have the opportunity to:

- Read the same Campus Reading Celebration book that will focus on one or more of the CSUCI Pillars
- Discuss the Campus Reading Celebration book with each other in both formal and informal settings
- Interact with the author of the Campus Reading Celebration book to aid in the demystification of books and/or authors
- Engage in open dialogue relating to multicultural perspectives, international perspectives, interdisciplinary education and/or service learning and civic engagement
- Experience a CSUCI program that combines the co-curricular and curricular