MAKING OUR POINT
A CIVIL DISCOURSE INITIATIVE
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Thanks to

• The Association of American Colleges and Universities
• The UW-Stevens Point’s Academy of Letters and Science
• The UW-Stevens Point’s Office of Academic Affairs
• The UW-Stevens Point’s College of Letters and Science
• The UW-Stevens Point’s Faculty Senate
• The UW-Stevens Point’s Classified Staff Advisory Council
• The UW-Stevens Point’s Student Government Association
• The Community Foundation of Central Wisconsin

And thanks to all of you!
“At Commencement, the Dean of Harvard College announces … that ‘each degree candidate stands ready to advance knowledge, to promote understanding, and to serve society.’ That message serves as a kind of moral compass for the education Harvard College imparts. … [S]tudents are expected to act with integrity, respect, and industry, and to sustain a community characterized by inclusiveness and civility.

As we begin at Harvard, we commit to upholding the values of the College and to making [Harvard] a place where all can thrive and where the exercise of kindness holds a place on a par with intellectual attainment.”
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Greg Lukianoff, “Does Harvard Want Bold Thinkers or Good Little Boys and Girls?”
Making Our Point so far:

- AAC&U Bringing Theory to Practice Seminar Grant (Fall 2012)
- “Civil Discourse and Civility as an Essential Learning Outcome” LEAP 2.0 Conference, University of Wisconsin - Madison (Spring 2013)
- “Making the University Safe for Civility: Grounding Civility Initiatives in the Intellectual Virtues,” Educating for Intellectual Virtues, Loyola Marymount University (Summer 2013)
- Charge from Chancellor Patterson (Fall 2013)
Civil Discourse is conversation governed by the virtues of intellectual **CONFIDENCE** and intellectual **HUMILITY**, expressing proper respect for ourselves and for those who differ from us.

**CONFIDENCE**

- Acknowledging that we might be informed and correct.
- Expressing our own positions, even when they differ from others.
- Being able and willing to support our positions with reasons.
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**CONFIDENCE**
- Acknowledging that we might be informed and correct.
- Expressing our own positions, even when they differ from others.
- Being able and willing to support our positions with reasons.

**HUMILITY**
- Acknowledging that we might be uninformed or mistaken.
- Taking the time to understand what someone is saying before we formulate a response to it.
- Changing our minds when appropriate.
Tonight’s Program:

• The Goal: Think about the nature of civil discourse by reflecting upon a conversation about a controversial topic.

• The Topic: Public Vaccination Policy

• The Participants
  • Paul Ehlers, Wisconsin Libertarian Party
  • Jim Maas, Wisconsin Libertarian Party
  • Ed Belongia, Marshfield Clinic
  • Bobbi Bradley, Marshfield Clinic
  • Don Downs, University of Wisconsin – Madison
Tonight’s Program:

Case Study 1
- 5 minute statement from public health perspective
- 5 minute statement from libertarian perspective
- 5 minute statement from constitutional expert
- 15 minute open interchange between panel members

Case Study 2
- Similar to above

Closing
- Audience feedback with remotes
Civil Discourse is conversation governed by the virtues of intellectual confidence and intellectual humility, expressing proper respect for ourselves and for those who differ from us.
What is your favorite color?

1. Purple
2. Gold

![Pie chart showing 65% for Purple and 35% for Gold]
What is your age range?

1. Under 18
2. 18-22
3. 23-35
4. 36-55
5. Over 55
Did this conversation substantially change your views about the topic?

1. Yes
2. No

86.2% Yes
13.8% No
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To what extent do you think the forum participants demonstrated intellectual CONFIDENCE?

1. Not at all.
2. To some extent.
3. To a great extent.
To what extent do you think the forum participants demonstrated intellectual **HUMILITY**?

1. Not at all.
2. To some extent.
3. To a great extent.
Was this discourse more or less civil than other conversations you have witnessed on similar topics?

1. Less civil.
2. The same.
3. More civil.

Chart showing:
- Less civil: 1.8%
- The same: 8.8%
- More civil: 89.5%
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