

Amy Forbeck  
Convocation Reflection

My Convo experience was truly one for the books. After recovering from a strong case of Strep Throat, I learned more than I could have bargained for. The first session I went to was on how to incorporate technology in the classroom. The presenter knew tons of information and gave plenty of ideas on how to do such a thing. He stressed the importance of involving the students with not only planning, but also carrying out the teaching. In his fourth grade classroom, he assigned students to different groups and gave each group a topic. From that topic, the students had to plan and carry out a lesson with technology. Some students incorporated a PowerPoint presentation; others made videos expressing their topic.

The general session speaker Thursday evening was inspiring! He was definitely one of the best speakers I have ever heard. He truly knew how to reach a room full of future teachers. I only hope we are able to bring him to Southeast to share his message with the future teachers here.

My next educational session was designed for beginning teachers. The first grade teacher from Baltimore brought her own top ten list for beginning teachers: "The Top Ten Things They Don't Teach You in College." With the top ten list, she also provided us with a little gift bag with something for each number on the list. This was the best session I attended at Convo. I think she provided the most useful information for a new teacher.

After the third educational session I attended, I confirmed where I wanted to go with my master's degree. I attended a workshop on adolescent girls. This session informed us about how an adolescent girl thinks and reacts to situations. I thought this workshop was also very informative. I will never forget what a young man in my session

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said. He apologized to all the women in the session for all the boys in their world who treated them badly. He said that males have no idea on what makes a girl want to hurt herself. It was very kind of him to do such a thing in front of a room full of women.

My final session of Convo gave wonderful examples of how to integrate literature into any subject area. The presenters provided us with a packet full of different examples of books and where they fall in subject area. I honestly had no idea of how many different versions of *The Three Little Pigs* existed. This workshop was an excellent way to end Convo.

I think the thing I enjoyed most about Convo was learning more about future teachers and sharing ideas with them. I came home with many classroom management techniques I am eager to try out. Most of all, I enjoyed connecting with people from our own chapter of Kappa Delta Pi.