



The **Courage** to Question Convention.
The **Passion** to Break New Ground.
The **Insight** to Champion Community.
The **Imagination** to Pursue the Undiscovered.
The **Will** to Achieve Greatness.
The **Promise** of a Limitless Future.
The **People** to Bring It to Life.
It's Happening Here.

August 7, 2009

Dear Students and Colleagues:

I am writing to encourage all our first year students, as well as our larger campus and Louisville area communities, to be part of U of L's 2009-2010 Book-In-Common. Given the ever-growing local and national debate on immigration in the U.S., *The Devil's Highway* by Luis Urrea is a timely selection for the coming academic year.

Readers will examine the complicated issue of immigration by following the true story of twenty-six men who attempted an ill-fated journey across the Mexican border into the unforgiving terrain of the Arizona desert. Rich with themes of motivation, hope, sacrifice and survival, *The Devil's Highway* provides an opportunity inside and outside of class, within and across disciplines to connect with and learn more about these important issues.

At the University of Louisville, we value the learning that takes place in and out of the classroom. Through reading the book and attending related events, participants will be challenged to consider their own and others' points of view, to better understand the significance of these complex issues in our own lives, and to explore how we can provide solutions to these problems and make a difference in our community.

Book-in-Common continues this university's tradition of commitment to academic excellence as we build community across lines of difference. Take part in this unique program and share your story, your perspective, and your ideas so that we may learn from this experience and from one another.

Sincerely,