



# How College Works: The Primacy of Personal Connection Dan Chambliss, Ph.D.

Eugene M. Tobin Distinguished Professor of Sociology, Hamilton College, and author, *How College Works*

**Thursday, March 15, 2018, 7:00 PM**  
**New Trier High School, Winnetka Campus, Gaffney Auditorium**  
**385 Winnetka Ave., Winnetka, IL 60093**

Presented by **Family Action Network (FAN)**,  
in partnership with **Beacon Academy, the New Trier Parents' Association,**  
**North Shore Country Day School, and the Wolcott School.**

This event is **free and open to the public** and will be taped. Suitable for youth 12+.  
**INFO: [familyactionnetwork.net](http://familyactionnetwork.net)**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: DAN CHAMBLISS, Ph.D.**

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**Thursday, March 15, 2018, How College Works: The Primacy of Personal Connection, 7:00 PM, New Trier High School, Winnetka Campus, Gaffney Auditorium, 385 Winnetka Ave., Winnetka, 60093.** With the cost of college nationwide reaching unsustainable heights for many families, students and parents alike are asking what benefits colleges really provide to their students. For their book *How College Works*, **Dan Chambliss, Ph.D.** and his former student **Chris Takacs, Ph.D.** closely followed 100 students from Hamilton College in New York State throughout their undergraduate careers and for years afterwards. They discovered that personal relationships – networks of friends, mentors, even passing acquaintances – played a decisive role, often more than majors or formal programs, in the academic and personal gains that students make. Relationships matter, and some higher education institutions foster them better than others. Prof. Chambliss’ talk will explain how colleges create strong friendship and mentoring bonds, and how students can – with modest effort – dramatically increase what they gain from their undergraduate experience.

Prof. Chambliss is the **Eugene M. Tobin Distinguished Professor of Sociology** at **Hamilton College**, where he has taught since receiving his Ph.D. from Yale in 1982. In 2014 Harvard University Press named *How College Works* as winner of the **Virginia and Warren Stone Prize** as the Press’s book of the year on Education and Society. *How College Works* was also chosen as the *Chronicle of Higher Education’s* featured Book Club Selection for September-August 2014, named to the *Chronicle’s* “Top Ten Books on Teaching” for the year, and listed in the *Washington Post’s* “Summer Reading List for College Counselors,” as well as being the subject of half-page story in the *New York Times’* special Education Life section.

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