



Building Campus Cultures of Respectful
Dialogue and Constructive Disagreement

OVERVIEW

The Positive Connection Initiative (PCI) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit helping colleges and universities develop dialogue-based programs that equip students, faculty, and staff to navigate disagreement with empathy, clarity, and mutual respect. Read about our work at Binghamton University in the [New York Times](#).

OUR APPROACH

We help campuses build a sustainable dialogue infrastructure through interactive skill-building training and community-wide initiatives. Our research-based model uses small group discussion and roleplay to emphasize:

- **Listening to Understand**
- **Curious Inquiry**
- **Tone & Emotional Regulation**

INTEGRATION

- Orientation and first-year workshops
- Faculty and staff trainings
- Ambassador/facilitator programs
- Dialogue microcredentials or recognition pathways
- Strategic planning and culture-change consulting

IMPACT

Our pilot program at Binghamton University (SUNY) has reached over 1,400 first-year students. Post-surveys showed (n = 680):

- 98% reported greater readiness for respectful, nonjudgmental conversations
- 65% “strongly agreed” — more prepared to ask questions of genuine curiosity
- 63% “strongly agreed” — more prepared to regulate tone during difficult conversations

WORK WITH US

We’re seeking new institutional partners to adapt and expand this model.

Contact us at pci@connection.net or visit www.connection.net