

Conclusion

Hinman College is chock full of traditions. The traditions mentioned in this chapter are just a few of the many traditions that Hinman celebrates. Dorm Wars, Hysteria and the Hinman Semi-Formal are perhaps the biggest and most enduring of all of Hinman traditions, but they are by no means the only ones. Many other Hinman activities can be considered traditions (HCC, HPC, Co-Rec etc.), but for the purposes of this history they are given space in other chapters. The most important thing to take away from these traditions is the concept of bridge building and filling the gaps between the generations. Every generation of Hinmanites has participated in a Dorm Wars even since 1978 and everyone has been involved in Hinman Hysteria since 1987. Almost every Hinmanite has been to at least one Semi-Formal during their time here. Others have cooked for the Student-Faculty Potluck dinner, auctioned themselves off in the Date Auction, played a round of team trivia, or been entertained by Cleve-edge. Traditions are what binds the past to the present, and though Henry James may have said that “an endless amount of history is needed to make even a little tradition,” within its relatively short forty year history, Hinman College has accumulated traditions both large and small. Traditions keep the past alive, give strength and guidance to the present, and provide hope for the future. Hinman is certainly not the only residential community with traditions, but it is the one which holds them the most dear. It is tradition which helps to define the time-honored Spirit of Hinman.

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