

## First College Assignment

### *Avila University Mission*

*Avila University, a Catholic University sponsored by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, is a values-based community of learning which provides a liberal arts, professional, undergraduate and graduate education to prepare students for responsible lifelong contributions to the global community.*

Welcome to Avila University! As indicated above in the Avila Mission statement, you have joined a community whose mission includes student preparation for lifelong contributions to the global community. In an effort to begin focusing on your contributions to the global community and introduce you to academic life at Avila, you will be participating in a common reading program. All first year students are required to read a book over the summer and submit an essay prior to the start of classes in the fall. We are proud to provide you with a copy of our book selection for this year, *The Distance Between Us* by Reyna Grande. A series of activities focused on this book will occur throughout the fall semester of your first year as an Avila student, beginning with New Student Orientation.

Your responsibility as a first year student is to read this book over the summer and submit an essay prior to the start of classes in the fall. The details of the assignment are enclosed. Please retain your book and a copy of your essay as the book will be an integral part of First Year Seminar (FS 101), and the essay is a required component of the class. I would like to emphasize the importance of this first academic assignment of your college career, and your seriousness in completing the assignment should reflect its importance. If you have questions regarding this assignment, please let me know using the contact information below.

Again, welcome to Avila University whose mission and values are not just words, but truly an opportunity to live a life of intention.

Avila Proud,

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