

Freshman Takeover Night

D. Michels 11/16

The Cru Ministry at Michigan Tech developed a unique strategy for involving Freshmen. They call it Freshman Takeover Night, where the entire Cru Weekly Meeting is handed over to the Freshmen in Cru. The Michigan's UP Cru ministries have been doing this for 15 years.

This is a great opportunity for you as Freshmen / First Year students to feel a real part of the Cru Group. As with any meeting, Planning is very important for a successful event.

Here are a few steps to making your Freshman Takeover Night be great.

- Pick a date for Freshman Takeover. The first week on Nov. is often a great week for this. Ask or designate 1 or 2 Freshmen as coordinators or facilitators for the meeting.
- Gather as many freshmen to an organizational / planning meeting that have been coming to your Cru meetings. Gather any freshmen after a meeting in late September & explain it. Have someone collect names and emails. Meet over a meal to continue your planning.
- Brainstorm about ideas and a theme for the meeting. You will have to pick a theme sometime, so don't spend all your time getting the perfect idea. Have fun being creative!
- Ask or designate people to take responsibility for the various aspects of the meeting. (Overall coordinator(s); Emcee(s); Speaker or Speaker liaison; Praise team leader or coordinator; Greeters / newcomer Raffle; Skit or Ice breaker person; etc.) You as Freshmen can utilize the regular praise team or do the music on their own. The same goes for a speaker, But ask them early! Or you could have 2 freshmen work together; each doing a 10 min devotional. It would be great for you to do a skit, make action points and be as creative as you can be. You can ask a Cru staff or volunteer to meet with the speaker or speakers to give some principles of giving a good talk, do's and don'ts, and helps in general coaching. (See Talk Preparation file)
- Pick a time for a rehearsal or dry run for the meeting. It's better if it happens days before the actual night, so that you can work on details.
- Keep the regular weekly meeting coordinator informed as to what is the basic plan for the meeting. More often than not, you as freshmen would like to keep the meeting plans a secret, but telling a few people is OK.
- Do whatever is possible to include every freshman!! One simple idea is to have each freshman come to the front & introduce themselves. Or have the MC described each person and then had the crowd guess which freshman they are describing.
- Have your team arrive early. Make sure Greeters are in place, with Newcomer cards; Praise team is ready; Emcee(s) are ready; Speaker is set; AND be on the lookout for other freshmen who show up, so that you can include them in the meeting.
- HAVE A BLAST!! What a great way to show the upperclassmen what a great Freshmen class you have!!

QUESTIONS???? Call the local Cru Staff or Cru Volunteer.