DEMOCRACY ENGAGEMENT ACTION PLAN

COLLEGE OF MARIN

STUDENTS FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

PRESENTED BY:
The College of Marin is located in Marin County. It has two campuses one in Novato and other in Kentfield. Every semester nearly 6000 students attend College of Marin. The college offers a range of programs to help students succeed, whether the goal is career advancement, career change or entering the workforce for the first time.

In 2012 voting registration rate was 66.4% and voting rate for registered students was 78.4% and in 2016 elections and voter registration rate was 74.2% and voting rate for registered students was 83.9%. Although we are proud, we believe that we can still do better. This is reason College of Marin is trying to coordinate with different student clubs and give them support and resources to encourage democratic ideals among the campus.

Our Democratic engagement plan's main purpose is to enlighten students about their duties and their rights as citizens. College of Marin believes that giving civic information and making student aware about the political structure is the purpose of higher education and College of Marin is working towards achieving that goal.

**Voter Registration Events**

The College of Marin would be working with students for social justice club and organizing voter registration booths all-around the campus. President of social justice club Carla Naylor would be organizing the registration booth with the help of organizations such as indivisible, and SURJ. Indivisible is a progressive movement in United States politics, initiated in 2016 as a reaction to the election of Donald Trump as President of the United States and SURJ is a national network of groups and individuals working to undermine white supremacy and to work toward racial justice. The college along with voter registration will provide a memo to students explaining them about different candidate's position on different issues and educating them about important dates in the upcoming midterm elections.

Faculty advisor Susan Rahman would be coordinating with different clubs around the campus and be leading these events. She is sociology and psychology professor and an activist, who is tirelessly working to engage students with community and encourage them to engage politically as well.

**Class and group discussions**
College of Marin and its faculty members will encourage students to participate in class discussion. In political science and history classes, students would be given essays to write on important and current issues for developing their critical thinking and developing their interest in American political system. Faculty would also encourage students to do a presentation on important political events and purposing solutions to the current problem of our system. This will not only make them engage with the community but will also develop their interest and critical thinking. Engaging in the diverse discussion would develop a sense of community among students and would help them to gain co-circular experience. Moreover, College of Marin would be inviting different political activists to the campus to answer question of students and would give them their perspective on current issues.

**Advertising the elections**

College of Marin would be working with different student clubs and would publicize this election through posters and signs around the campus and be reminding students of an upcoming election. Student for social justice club members would go to different classes, and give the presentation in the classes, and be encouraging students to vote in the upcoming election and answering their questions. The faculty member would also encourage the students in the class and would remind students of their civic duty to vote in the election. Moreover, we will also welcome political campaign members to come to campus, and advocate for their candidates and encourage students to participate in American democratic system.

**Conclusion**

It is the duty of the educational institution to prepare and educate students about civic engagement. Our Action plan is designed specifically to increase voter turnout by increasing voter registration and creating awareness among college students about their civic duties. College of Marin believes that bringing new voices to our democratic process will bring different viewpoints to the table and would shape the new future leaders of the United States of America.