Philosophy:
Haverford’s goal is to engage students through multi-pronged outreach and engagement, and to build a culture of civic participation and familiarity with the election process.

Voter Registration:
Haverford seeks to support eligible students’ decision to vote wherever they prefer, whether using their campus address or their permanent home address. On the voting homepage (haverford.edu/voting), the College makes information available regarding all options for registering, requesting an absentee ballot, and voting while studying abroad.

The College facilitates voter registration efforts during first-year move-in, and other efforts over the course of the year (such as tabling and social media outreach) are organized by student clubs and organizations, including Haverford Votes.

To minimize potential issues with voter registration, the College maintains a relationship with the Delaware County Voter Registration Office, and is well-positioned to facilitate resolutions to potential issues.

At regular intervals, the College examines county voting data to verify registration and voting percentages, and to compare internal data against that calculated by the National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement (NSLVE).

Encouraging Campus Discourse
The College supports a wide range of conversation regarding contemporary issues, and partners with a range of student and alumni organizations to organize and promote such events while modeling intelligent, empathetic civil discourse. Examples include our Multicultural Alumni Action Group’s event, “Midterms 2018: What’s at Stake?”, which featured alumni representing a broad range of political perspectives and roles within politics, and the “Discourse on Discourse” series from the student group Community Conversations, Actionable Solutions.

Access to the Polling Place
After years of advocacy and work with the county Board of Elections, the College won a much-publicized vote to relocate the polling place for our ward to a space on campus, our Facilities Management building. Hosting voting on campus increased convenience not only for student voters, but also for neighbors who are now able to walk to their polling place. Through a carefully coordinated signage and communication plan, on- and off-campus voters will know where to go and will have plentiful access to parking.

Campus Committee:
Jesse Lytle, Vice President and Chief of Staff
Zach Oberfield, Associate Professor of Political Science and Advisor, Haverford Votes
Franklyn Cantor, Special Assistant to the President