IUPUI
ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge
Executive Summary

In the heart of Indianapolis, IUPUI serves as a premier urban public research university that has a mission of advancing the state of Indiana and the growth of its citizens through research and creative activity, teaching and learning, and civic engagement. Our university is committed to focusing on providing accessible democratic, political, and civic engagement for our population to bridge the gap between our students, the local community, and the national conversation.

The ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge action plan was initiated by a team of undergraduate and graduate students and professional staff within the Division of Student Affairs. Our team was Brian Starkel, Senior Assistant Director, Rachel Gibson, Graduate Assistant for Undergraduate Student Government, and our Civic Engagement Assistants, Emily Snooks, Kylie Dunlap, Yvonne Carmelo, and Jeru Qadar. Our submission was supported by our Political Engagement Committee spearheaded by our Assistant Vice Chancellor for Community Engagement, Jennifer Boehm.

In 2018, IUPUI students had a voter registration rate of 72.9% and a turnout rate of 38%. The turnout rate was a 25% increase from 2014. This action plan was developed because we want to continue our upward trend of our students increasing their level of democratic participation.

For this report, we have selected four central goals that include 1) an increase of first-year students registering to vote by the end of 2020 by 5%, 2) an increase of democratic engagement for minority students by 10% by the end of 2020, 3) development of a strong student outreach campaigns and networks through organizations, newsletters, social media, and digital campaigns, and 4) a focus on types of voting by hosting a dedicated event in 2020 to highlight different ways to vote.

Our action plan starts at the beginning of the 2020 spring semester and by 2021. The timeframe was selected as it allows us to have two election cycles as a part of our plan inclusive of primary elections and the General Election. Our plan will be short term as our campus is participating in the Institute for Democracy and Higher Education Research-to-Practice Initiative (IDHE) which is an ongoing assessment effort to develop a long-term campus-wide engagement plan. This action plan serves as a catalyst for initiatives and will be instrumental as being a starting point for the final report.

The plan will be implemented by a team of students, faculty, staff, and stakeholders connected and not connected with the Political Engagement Committee through programs, voter registration initiatives, dialogues around local and global issues, panels, classroom presentations on the campus and within the surrounding communities. Brian Starkel, Senior Assistant Director through the Division of Student Affairs will serve to collect, document, and assess experiences that will allow us to fulfill our goals.
Leadership

Our political engagement committee is a cohort of faculty, staff, students, and community partners that work together to inform, program, and research around the subjects of civic engagement, civic literacy, voter education, and voter advocacy.

Organized through the Office of Community Engagement from Assistant Vice Chancellor, Jennifer Boehm, the committee reports our findings directly to the Chancellor’s Cabinet and the Advisory Board. The advisory board consists of members of the Chancellor’s Cabinet that include the Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief Academic Officer, Kathy Johnson; Vice Chancellor for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Karen Dace; Vice Chancellor for Community Engagement, Amy Warner; Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, Eric Weldy, and the Associate Vice Chancellor for Undergraduate Education and Dean of University College, Jay Gladden.

Our current team includes members from the Division of Students Affairs, Institute of Engaged Learning, the Multicultural Center, the Paul H. O’Neill School of Public Affairs, University Library, School of Science, and School of Liberal Arts. Our student members are represented by the Civic Engagement Assistants (CEA), under the Division of Student Affairs. The CEAs are responsible for supporting and sustaining civic engagement on IUPUI’s campus through the implementation of programs like voter education, voting registration and other interactive activities.

One of our unique strengths is our ability to utilize national assessment models and initiatives for political engagement. We are just one of 12 members institutions who were selected to participate in Institute for Democracy and Higher Education Research-to-Practice Initiative (IDHE). Between April 2018 and May 2019, 10 focus groups were held with students, faculty, staff, and administration. The focus group content was coded and analyzed based on political, cultural, human and organizational frames. This past fall, we hosted several dialogue sessions to review the findings and identify opportunities for improvement.

Currently, we participate in voter education and registration national efforts such as All-In Campus Democracy Challenge and the Voter Friendly Campus Initiative. The newest involvement is through the American Democracy Projects new pilot program, World 101 through the Council of Foreign Relations, which focuses on global civic literacy. The program is designed to help students increase their knowledge of our global society and understand how global issues and understand how global issues influence lives of everyday citizens.

Civic engagement is aligned in our mission, values, strategic plans, schools, and academic curriculum. Our strength as a coalition is a shared responsible to upholding these tenants of the university. A highlight of these commitments includes our public affairs major that includes civic leadership, media and public affairs, and sustainable management and policy.

We have several annual partnerships with local community organizations who participate on campus through advisement, programming, and education. We will be sending formal invitations to the Marian County Board of Elections, ACLU, League of Women Voters, and Women for Change to join us. We hope these stronger partnerships will allow us to continue to connect deeper to the Indianapolis community.

Our coalition is currently undergoing expansion for a student committee that we hope will be inclusive of the following organizations that include our Social Justice Scholars, Alternative Break Scholars, Undergraduate Student Government, Graduate and Professional Student Government, Alliance at IUSM, Equal Justice Works, Student Sustainability Council @ IUPUI, Young Democratic Socialist of America @ IUPUI, College Republicans @ IUPUI, and the College Democrats @ IUPUI.

We believe that our program outcomes can be best achieved when students have a seat at the table and are actively a part of the decision-making process. Our large team meets on a quarterly basis and we hope to mirror that with the student committee.
### Our Coalition

#### Advisory Group

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Kathy Johnson</td>
<td>Executive Vice Chancellor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jay Gladden</td>
<td>Associate Vice Chancellor for Undergraduate Education, Dean of University College</td>
<td>Division of Undergraduate Education</td>
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<td>Eric Weldy</td>
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<td>Amy Warner</td>
<td>Vice Chancellor for Community Engagement</td>
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<tr>
<td>Karen Dace</td>
<td>Vice Chancellor for Diversity, Equity, &amp; Inclusion</td>
<td>Division of Diversity, Equity, &amp; Inclusion</td>
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#### Political Engagement Committee

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Jennifer Boehm</td>
<td>Assistant Vice Chancellor</td>
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<td>Khalilah Shabazz</td>
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<td>Courtnee Yarbrough</td>
<td>External Relations</td>
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<td>Dan Griffith</td>
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<td>Nicole Amonette</td>
<td>Director of Student Services</td>
<td>Paul H. O’Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs</td>
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Commitment

The institutional leadership demonstrates a strong commitment to civic learning and democratic engagement through our mission statement, vision, and strategic plan.

The mission of IUPUI places a central focus to ‘advance the state of Indiana and the intellectual growth of its citizens to the highest levels nationally and internationally through research and creative activity, teaching and learning, and civic engagement’.

The vision has a focus 'To be a leading urban research institution recognized for the success of its students, its advances in health and life sciences, and its intellectual, economic, and cultural contributions to the well-being of the citizens of Indianapolis, the state of Indiana, and beyond'.

Our strategic plan for the university, Our Commitment to Indiana and Beyond: IUPUI Strategic Plan, plays an essential role in shaping our priorities for the future. Within the document, it outlines clearly in Priority 3, a focus on contributions of the well-being of the citizens of Indianapolis, The State of Indiana, and beyond. Within the priority, it outlines a goal to deepen the campus commitment to community engagement, which focuses on increasing service and experiential learning opportunities, stimulating economic development, and using outreach and engagement to address urban community needs.

This commitment is supported by IUPUI’s Community Engagement Classification provided by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. We are amongst the first cohort of campuses to receive this designation. Additionally, through diligent work, the campus was awarded the Engaged Campus of the Year in 2018 from the Indiana Campus Compact for exemplary commitment to improving the community and educating students for civic and social responsibility.

Our campus manifests this commitment with offices, departments, and institutes that engage within the community, the curricular, and co-curricular. These include the Office of Community Engagement, the Institute for Engaged Learning, the Division of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, and the Division of Student Affairs.

Through our commitment to democratic engagement, we received the Bronze Seal in 2016, the Silver Seal in 2018 from the ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge. We received a designation of a Voter Friendly Campus in 2018-2019, 2019-2020 and landed in the top 15 institutions for voting from Washington Monthly.
Landscape

The commitment to civic learning and democratic engagement is through the work of the Office of Academic Affairs who developed the Profiles of Learning for Undergraduate Success (IUPUI+) and within the tools and instruments available to faculty and staff members through the Center for Service and Learning that include the civic-minded graduate, civic-minded professional, and the SOFAR model, a conceptual framework for organizing community-campus partnerships.

Civic engagement is embedded in multiple offices, faculty, and courses throughout IUPUI. Based on past reports faculty have cited over 500 different community partners and we have over 600 course sections for community-based learning courses with over 8,000 students participating.

This year, the National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement (NSLVE) provided us with exciting results from our most recent election cycle in 2018.

Most noteworthy was a 25% increase in the voting rate from 2014 to 38.3%. These promising numbers were validating of our hard work and motivating to continue to raise the bar. Our registration rate was at 72.9% but we had a 52.6% voting rate. This statistic made us reflect on how we can close the gap to make students feel more comfortable about voting.
One of the surprising data points was the percentage of absentee ballot use with 34.9%. With more than a third of campus utilizing this method, we see an opportunity to increase our education on different voting methods. We recognize that a lot of college students are registered back home and may not have known about the absentee process.

Even though the voting demographic of 18-21-year old increased by 25%, this age group still was under other older age groups. We see this as a continued opportunity to increase our presence at new student orientation and conduct outreach in first-year seminar classes because a lot of these students may be first-time voters.

We find value in the breakdown of the field of study within the report, specifically those who were below the 35% voting rate. These fields included business, management, and marketing, engineering and technologies, biological and biomedical sciences, law enforcement, parks, recreation, leisure, and fitness students, physical sciences, and psychology. We want to target market between the schools to make connections and find ways to incorporate democratic engagement in each of field of study.

Contributing additionally to our action plan were the results from the 2018 Campus Climate Survey. Some of the themes that were identified were to extend discussions beyond debates, a hesitancy to express viewpoints in an academic and co-curricular setting, and a lack of diversity on the political spectrum. Through the action plan, we hope to provide more opportunities for dialogue and to present our first-year students with a framework for engagement.
As mentioned, there are several offices that support civic engagement on campus. The **Office of Community Engagement** which exists to support, promote, and recognize campus engagement within the community and to develop a strategic approach to community engagement at IUPUI. They have two focus areas that include professional development and corporate education, and family, school, and neighborhood engagement.

*The Institute for Engaged Learning* promotes and supports the equitable progression of undergraduates through pathways of connected and scaffolded curricular and co-curricular, applied, integrative, and experiential learning opportunities that prepare students for lives of commitment and success with skills to communicate, innovate, and engage in local and global communities to address 21st century problems. Within the institute includes first-year experience programs, Center for Service and Learning, Center for Research and Learning, Gateway Learning Academy, ePortfolio Initiative, and RISE.

Highlighted within the portfolio from the Institute for Engaged Learning is the **Center for Service and Learning**. The Center for Service and Learning bridges that gap between academic affairs, the community, and coursework that focuses on civic/service engagement. This office plays a central role in assisting faculty in curriculum development of service-learning courses, research and evaluation, and developing strong partnerships with community members and organizations. The office has developed several tools and taxonomies including the Civic-Minded Graduate, Civic-Minded Professional, SOFAR Framework (Student, Community, Organizational Staff, Faculty, Campus Administrators/Staff & Community Residents) and the IUPUI Taxonomy for Service-Learning Courses. Throughout the university, within academic units, courses are available for a variety of majors that value the themes of civic engagement.

On the co-curriculum side of our campus, the mission of the **Division of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion** is to educate, advocate, engage and empower the IUPUI community by cultivating partnerships and resources to create and sustain an environment that is inclusive, equitable, and diverse. Within the division includes the Multicultural Center, LGBTQ+ Center, Office of Intercultural Literacy, Capacity, and Engagement. Annual programming includes affinity group programs, a cultural movie series, and a How to College series.

Key student initiatives include multiple multicultural student organizations and the **Social Justice Scholars** whose mission is to provide students with awareness, knowledge and skills to develop their leadership identity through a social justice framework in order to empower students. A series of dialogues and programs are produced on a monthly basis that include Democracy Plaza, Pass the Mic, Speak OUT Café, Real Talk, and Hash It Out.

A part of the annual work includes Tunnel of Oppression, an interactive production in partnership with Housing & Residence Life to highlight contemporary social justice issues and to introduce participants to essential concepts of oppression. In the spring, a Social Justice Symposium is hosted as a low-cost day-long conference focusing on workshops, speakers, and dialogues.

The **Division of Student Affairs has the Campus Center & Student Experiences** office which housing programs such as Alternative Breaks, the undergraduate and the graduate and professional student government, campus funding grants, and the Civic Engagement Assistants (CEA). The CEAs develop programs based solely on civic learning and engagement including initiating the All-In Democracy Challenge, Voter Friendly Campus, and hosting monthly programs.

Our Alternative Break Scholars plan and implement two fall break trips and five spring break trips to a variety of cities with a focus on a variety of topical issues that have included immigration, mental health, veteran affairs, the LGBTQ+ community, environmentalism, and more. All these opportunities provide our students with exposure to topics to push them beyond their comfort zone and build a pathway to become an active citizen.
Our Civic Engagement Assistants have developed monthly programming on campus and assist in facilitating voter registration. In the past year, we were able to register over 800 students to vote through registration activities held during orientation and Weeks of Welcome in addition to tabling events throughout campus. Through our robust tabling experiences, we learned that these activities served as a clearinghouse for all questions around the election and non-civic engagement programs.

Our voter education provides an opportunity to focus on voting, voter ID laws, and absentee voter information through a variety of presentations that include Understanding Government, Indianapolis Unigov, IndyGo, Civic Discourse, Advocacy 101, How To Vote, and Voter Rights. On an semesterly basis a Voter Information Guide is produced about the upcoming elections and sent to all first-year seminar instructors and scholar programs.

Our signature ballot education activity is the Mock Election held in October. We bring in voting machines and feature the upcoming ballot for Marion County. One of the key barriers to any election is accessibility and we make sure to partner with the Marion County Board of Elections, ACLU of Indiana, League of Women Voters, Women for Change, and Indiana Disability Rights organization. Our signature democratic engagement program focuses on early voting with a March to the Polls, co-sponsored annually with the Multicultural Center. We have a rally and travel a short distance to downtown Indianapolis to perform our civic duties.

In terms of voter mobilization, we send monthly newsletters that touched a variety of campus partners and departments, held campus-wide voter rallies such as Constitution Day and National Voter Registration Day. Through our social media and web platforms, we were able to conduct educational and get-out-the-vote events over a dozen times. On Election Day, we hosted an Election HQ and had computers to allow students to look up their registration to see where in the city they could vote.

IUPUI has a supportive community that is conducive to civic engagement work to take place but can be siloed at times where communication to large groups of campus is hindered. Our campus is blessed to be in the heart of the city where community partners and the Indiana State House are accessible for all our students. Polling locations around campus are less than five minutes away with a total of 274 within Indianapolis. Some of the internal barriers to our campus is that most of our campus are commuters. They come from not just Indianapolis but surrounding counties and may not be a participatory of programs that focus on the local election county, Marion.

The external barriers have been reduced in the past year with the allowance of school IDs to be used from the campus for official identification but there are still ways that the State of Indiana can continue to support voters. Currently, our state does not offer same day voter registration and voters must be registered about a month ahead of time.

Overall, our campus is committed to an active election cycle in 2020 and believe we have the coalition, stakeholders, and students to continue to be successful.
Goals

The IUPUI campus strategy focuses on three priorities, each of them crucial to the success of our institution, our city, and our state: (1) the success of our students; (2) advances in health and life sciences; and (3) contributions to the well-being of the citizens of Indianapolis, the state of Indiana, and beyond.

One of the ways for our students to be civic-minded graduates is through the IUPUI’s PLUS+ (Profiles of Learning for Undergraduate Success) initiative. This learning outcome model was developed as an opportunity to prepare all students to communicate, innovate, and to engage local and global communities to solve the problems of the 21st century. These learning outcomes include our desire for our students to become a community contributor. It is our hope that students are active and valued on and off campus through responsible, civically engaged action. During the upcoming academic year, individual units will be work on action plans towards full integration, develop appropriate courses, programs, and co-curricular experiences for the university to code appropriately.

Within this priority in the strategic plan is a goal of deepening our commitment to community engagement by increasing service and experiential learning opportunities, stimulate economic development, and use outreach and engagement to address urban community needs. The goal is broken down into three objectives that include 1) developing a comprehensive strategy that applies the campus’s place-based economic power and human capital in partnership with the community to benefit the long-term well-being of both, 2) leading campus engagement initiatives that further involve students, faculty, and staff in the community, and 3) advancing the campus reputation for engagement locally, nationally, and internationally.

In our last ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge report, we contributed to our campus strategic plan by setting four goals that would change the campus community for the better. These goals centered on being a champion for voter registration, education, and turnout, 2) development of impactful monthly programming, 3) how to embed our strategies into the campus culture, and 4) increase pathways of connect between coursework and co-curricular experiences. Through the hard work of countless student groups, our civic engagement assistants, departments, and individuals, we have been able to see the fruition of our goal setting.

Based on past demographic information that measures participation in campus and voter activities, we have identified four goals to continue to increase the importance of political awareness on a college campus. These goals include 1) an increase of first-year students registering to vote by the end of 2020 by 5%, 2) an increase of engagement and participation of minority students by 10% by the end of 2020 by creating more inclusive programming, 3) develop a strong student outreach campaign and network through newsletters, social media, and digital campaigns and 4) a focus on different types of voting by hosting a dedicated event in 2020 to highlight different ways to vote.

As we move forward with these goals, it is essential for our coalition to continue to increase in size and demographic of its makeup to ensure our programs are impacting the whole campus community. We saw increasing engagement in each of our past NSLVE reports but need to develop a plan to allow us to maintain a consistent rates year-after-year. The impact of our program’s success is how we continue to build social and cultural capital that will allow students to become active participants in their learning.
Strategy

Successful accomplishment of our four goals require implementation from multiple stakeholders, campus organizations, departments, and schools to craft a landscape of civic engagement. Our campus is deeply committed to educating for civic learning, political engagement, and voter participation. Through our mission, vision, and programs, we have wealth of programming with major contributors that include the Division of Student Affairs, Division of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, the Center for Service and Learning, and the Paul H. O’Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs.

A large part of our strategy will be to categorize and communicate what is being offered on and off campus. The activities, programs, and initiatives that are listed are planned and have a responsible party. As the Political Engagement Committee meets throughout the year, there will be more opportunities for our students, faculty, and staff to engage.

The activities for the upcoming year can be broken down into three unique categories of voter registration, voter and social issue education, and voter and civic participation.

Our voter registration activities are meant to provide basic information on how to register to vote, options for voting, and provide information on upcoming events. Throughout the past few years, we have focused on registration at high-traffic, large-scale events such as New Student Orientation, the Fall Involvement Expo for student organizations, and athletic events. Outside of these high-profile programs, we table 1-2 times per month prior to the registration deadline and participate in National Voter Registration Day.

Education on social issues, public policy, and global literacy are a consistent presence at IUPUI and we’ve selected to highlight activities that have been a tradition part of our campus community and are attractive to our first-year students and minority groups. These programs that focus on voter education include an Election Year Kick-Off, Indiana Primary Day program, President’s Day program, Debate Watch Parties, Pre-Election HQ, and our Mock Election. Those activities that focus on examining social issues through a social justice lens include monthly dialogues from our Social Justice Scholars, Chancellor’s Diversity Speaker Series, and the annual Social Justice Symposium.

Programs that include civic participation include the March to the Polls program that happens each fall that highlights early voting. The Paul H. O’Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs features several programs that inspire civic participation that include the Public Service Speaker Series, the Bulen Symposium, and the Non-Profit Expo. Through our goals, we hope to strengthen the accessible to diverse population by partnering with more specific multicultural organizations for events beyond traditional schools and divisions. We hope to organize voter registration events were all multicultural organizations can be involved and share the data that we have received from the NSVLE report.

One of the key demographic groups identified in our goals is our first-year student population. We have plenty of presentations that are provided by our Civic Engagement Assistants and they hope to develop a ‘Why Students Should Vote’ custom presentation for first-year students and conduct target marketing in August and early September when participation is the highest. Currently, we provide a Voter Information Guide to all first-year seminar instructors. This practice has been conducted the past two semesters and we hope to increase our communication of this tool for faculty and staff to utilize in their classrooms.

One of our key strategies of success will be working with the Political Engagement Committee on the completion of the IDHE Research-To-Practice initiative. The report will allow us to properly assess the culture of IUPUI and take further steps towards institution commitment. Through the final report, we hope to utilize the taskforce feature to allow us to program towards individual schools based on the voter engagement statistics from the NSVLE report. With a culture of innovation and creativity at IUPUI, there are outstanding activities that are happening on campus that may not be on this report and we hope to continue to call on our coalition to assist in bringing others to the table. By analyzing annual work that is happening on campus, we hope to present the campus with a singular message of civic engagement programs, resources, and initiatives.
2020 Tentative Calendar of Events

1/23/2020  Election Year Kick-Off Program, Division of Student Affairs, On-Campus
1/30/2020  Voter Registration Tabling, Division of Student Affairs, On-Campus
2/1/2020   Social Justice Symposium, Division of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, On-Campus
2/13/2020  Voter Registration Tabling, Division of Student Affairs, On-Campus
2/17/2020  President’s Day Program, Division of Student Affairs, On-Campus
2/25/2020  Public Service Speaker Series, Paul H. O’Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs, On-Campus
3/5/2020   Undergraduate Student Government Public Forum, Division of Student Affairs, On-Campus
3/11/2020  Undergraduate Student Government Election Day, Division of Student Affairs, On-Campus
3/12/2020  Voter Registration Tabling, Division of Student Affairs, On-Campus
3/15/2020  Alternative Spring Break, Division of Student Affairs, Multiple US Cities
3/24/2020  Voter Registration Tabling, Division of Student Affairs, On-Campus
3/25/2020  Nonprofit Expo, Paul H. O’Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs, On-Campus
3/26/2020  Indiana Primary Election Program, Division of Student Affairs, On-Campus
4/8/2020   Public Service Speaker Series, Paul H. O’Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs, On-Campus
4/15/2020  World 101 Program, Campus-Wide Initiative, On-Campus
June-August Voter Registration at New Student Orientation, Division of Student Affairs, On-Campus
September  National Voter Registration Day, Division of Student Affairs, On-Campus
9/29/2020  Presidential Debate, Division of Student Affairs, On-Campus
October   Mock Election, Division of Student Affairs, On-Campus
10/7/2020  Vice Presidential Debate, Division of Student Affairs, On-Campus
10/15/2020 Presidential Debate, Division of Student Affairs, On-Campus
10/22/2020 Presidential Debate, Division of Student Affairs, On-Campus
October   March To The Polls, Division of Student Affairs, Off-Campus
October   Pre Election Day HQ, Division of Student Affairs, On-Campus
November  Election Day HQ, Division of Student Affairs, On-Campus
November  Tunnel of Oppression, Division of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, On-Campus
December Bulen Symposium, Paul H. O’Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs, On-Campus
We recognize that in order to continue to engage with students, faculty, staff, and community partners, we must continue to elevate the visibility of our goals, data, and reports broadly. We share our report annually with the Political Engagement Committee and have an opportunity to present at the Chancellor’s Cabinet about once a year.

Over the last two years, we have built an online clearinghouse for voting information on go.iu.edu/vote run through the Office of Community Engagement. The information housed includes upcoming election deadlines, highlights of our NSLVE data, and understanding voter rights. All reports are available for PDF download and include our 2016 and 2018 NSVLE Reports, a digital Voter Information Guide, and the All-In Democracy Report. We hope that through our efforts that we can focus on the general public and not just through administrators.

With this centralization of resources, we have been able to promote a singular gateway for political engagement on campus that is used as the primary address on print and digital marketing for the public. Our students utilize an online organization management system through CampusLabs called The Den. All reports are available on that resource through Leadership Development and Civic Engagement. This forum allows for us to showcase monthly programs and voter registration tabling throughout the year.
The purpose of the evaluation is both short term and long term. Our short-term purpose is to assess the current action plan surrounding extracting and implementing specific data from the NSLVE report which will focus exclusively on students. Our long-term evaluation is through our Institute for Democracy and Higher Education Research-to-Practice Initiative (IDHE) and will focus on students, faculty, and staff.

Through our programming efforts, we will have the opportunity to run a demographic report on all student attendees through our student organization management system, The Den. Members of our student affairs staff will be spearheading the collection of data from specific events suggested by the Political Engagement Committee. This information will be collected and analyzed on a semesterly basis. This evaluation will allow us to analyze performance indicators to evaluate any connections between campus participation and the NSLVE data, specifically if we are closing the gap in our identified goals.

We are curious to see how our programs are resonating with certain disciplines, minority demographics, and first-year students. Through a program survey, we will be able to understand the impact of our programming beyond the numbers. These will examine satisfaction, learning outcome completion, and communication. With this information, we will be able to continue our strategic programming and dialogue to impact students.

Contributing assessments impacting our work include the End of First Semester Survey, National Survey of Student Engagement, Campus Climate Survey, and the JagSpeak-Community Engagement Survey. Specifically, towards diversity, equity, and inclusion, is the annual campus climate survey report administered by Institutional Effectiveness and Survey Research, an office within Institutional Research and Decision support who work with members of the Division of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. This report allows us to understand the landscape of the institution. Regarding democratic engagement, the assessment has information related to political affiliation/views and how that contributes to campus climate.

With a strong coalition, we will be able to rapidly share results with stakeholders, directors, deans, and members of the Chancellor’s Cabinet. With the development of our online tools, the accessible of our reports can increase in scope from years past.

With the completion of our focus groups and dialogues as part of the IDHE Research-to-Practice Initiative, our next step is to write a report with findings and recommended actions that will be shared with the advisory board. In the spring of 2020, we will identify task forces and timelines to pursue our recommendations. The work is being carried out by the Political Engagement Committee.
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