2020 Election Year Planning
Committee for Civic Engagement
Lewis University

Primary Election Planning:
• Early February - Voter Registration Drive
• Emails to community regarding voter registration deadlines and online forms, partnered with social media outreach
• Pi Sigma Alpha – create and distribute nonpartisan voter guides for the two primaries
• Faculty Forum videos (Steve Nawara or other interested faculty) – Possible topics: How does the primary process work? What are the Iowa Caucuses? How do I vote in a primary election? What are polls?
• Deadlines:
  o FEB. 18 – Last day to register with a paper form
  o MARCH 1 – Last day to register online – send emails with online link beforehand
• First week of March – send information about 1) Polling places and about how to vote 2) requesting mail-in ballots or early voting 3) obtaining sample ballots
  o Ask student newspaper to include this information
  o Ask to include information on the digital signage
• MARCH 17 – Primary election day
  o Email and social media reminders, reminders about to register at the polls
  o Student Snapchat takeover
  o Student Activities has done rides to the polls in previous general elections. Can/should they do it for the primary?
  o In the past, Residence Life (or some other department) was available to print official letters confirming residency for on-campus students to they can register at the polls

General Election Planning:
• Voter registration at Welcome Week
• Week of September 14 – some kind of Constitution Day event
• September 22 – National Voter Registration Day
• Nonpartisan Voter Guides created by Dr. Nawara’s Campaigns and Elections class and/or Pi Sigma Alpha
  o Encourage sharing these voter guides on campus
• October – Student-led Arts & Ideas event on issues affecting students and young adults in the 2020 Election
  o This will require identifying/recruiting interested and capable students from the Student Senate, Political Science, or other sources.
• Faculty Forum videos (Steven Nawara and/or other interested faculty) – possible topics: What are nominating conventions? Why are debates important? How are campaigns funded? Why is voter turnout important for college students? How do I vote in the General Election?
• Creating a Voter Information Module for Blackboard
  o Such a module can include voter registration information, information about absentee voting and same-day registration, polling place information, how to find sample ballots, and links to nonpartisan voter resources
  o This module could then be distributed to faculty for use in class or posted on Blackboard shells
• Debate Watch Parties – organized by Student Senate, Pi Sigma Alpha, or some other group
• Important Deadlines – prepare with emails to community, digital signage:
  o October 6, 2020 – Last day to register to Vote (Regular) for Presidential Election
  o October 18, 2020 – Last day to register to vote (Online) for Presidential Election
• November 3, 2020 – Election Day
  o Email and social media reminders, reminders about to register at the polls
  o Student Snapchat takeover
  o Voter information table –
    ▪ Answering questions
    ▪ Student Activities has done rides to the polls in previous general elections.
    ▪ Printing official letters confirming residency for on-campus students to they can register at the polls
  o Maybe a results watch party?
• Election Results Recap event – hosted by Political Science Department?