

Overview:

Located in Sarasota, New College of Florida has educated intellectually curious students for the lives of great achievement since its founding in 1960. As the State of Florida's designated honors college, New College provides an exceptional undergraduate education that transforms students' intellectual curiosity into personal accomplishment. New College offers nearly 40 areas of concentration for undergraduates and a master's degree program in Data Science. We have earned many [accolades and distinctions](#), among them a place in Loren Pope's book, "Colleges That Change Lives," and consistently high national rankings by the leading arbiters of higher education.

New College of Florida prepares intellectually curious students for lives of great achievement. It offers a liberal arts education of the highest quality in the context of a small, residential public honors college with a distinctive academic program which develops the student's intellectual and personal potential as fully as possible; encourages the discovery of new knowledge and values while providing opportunities to acquire established knowledge and values; and fosters the individual's effective relationship with society (NCF Mission Statement, 2019).

The Office of Student Activities and Campus Engagement (SAuCE Office) is committed to creating a vibrant purposeful, and supportive college community where students make a positive difference, develop healthy and meaningful relationships with others while being empowered to take action to serves as active citizens in the global community.

Leadership:

Core Team:

Jada McNeill - Assistant Director, Student Activities and Campus Engagement
Danielle ' Dani' McCalla - Director, Student Activities and Campus Engagement
Student, Campus Vote Project Democracy Fellow
Student, Campus Vote Project Democracy Fellow

Campus Collaborators:

Randy Harrell - Dean of Student Affairs

Mark Stier - Senior Associate Dean of Affairs
Ann Comer-Woods - Director of Marketing and Communications
David A. Fugett - General Counsel
Lesley Nickels - Assistant Director, Student Activities and Campus Engagement
Cal Murgu - Librarian, Research, Instruction and Digital Humanities
Frank Alcock - Associate Professor of Political Science and Environmental Studies
Nicole Gelfert- Associate Director of Residential Education
Kaylie Stokes - Assistant Director of Student Success & Advocacy
Rory Renzy- Democracy Matters Club

Off-Campus Collaborators

League of Women Voters
Rachel Denton (Communications and Voter Outreach Manager, Sarasota County
Supervisor of Elections)
City of Sarasota
Census Bureau
Democracy Works
IDHE
Eckerd College- Student PIRG

Goals

Long Term Goals:

1. Civic Requirement
Section 1007.25(4), Florida Statutes, requires all students who enter a Florida public college or university in 2018 or any semester after to meet the State of Florida Civic Literacy Requirement. Therefore, we would like to continue working with campus partners to support the successful meeting of this requirement.
2. Democratic Engagement Badge
Developing a comprehensive democratic engagement series where students can earn credit that exhibits their civic competencies through event, workshop and program attendance
3. Actively engage students in the STEM fields

Short Term Goals:

1. Register students to vote or to update their information within the first 40 days of the fall semester, specifically on National Voter Registration Day and Constitution Day
2. Rolling out TurboVote to help make the registration process easier throughout the semester. Students will also be able to update their information, have alerts for upcoming local and national elections
3. Engage with students on social media platforms using the hashtag #NCFVOTES
4. Design programs and spaces for students to engage with each other on political issues to equip and increase their knowledge of not just issues or candidates but of the democratic process and challenges.
5. Include upper administrators in the plan to increase student engagement

Strategy:

Below lists the programs/ initiatives NCF will implement:

Constitution Day: League of Women Voters will be registering students to vote while an on-campus speaker engages students on political topics that are of interest to the community.

National Voter Registration Day: Rachel Denton, Communications and Voter Outreach Manager of Sarasota County Supervisor of Elections, and her team comes to campus to register students, faculty and staff to vote for the upcoming elections, gives students an opportunity to be involved with the election through their poll worker program, and gives students information on absentee ballots.

Roll to the Polls: NCF Staff will be offering rides to the nearest polling stations in the College Van during election time.

Social Media Campaigns: SAuCE will be posting regular content on our various social media pages such as Facebook, and Instagram using the hashtag #NCFVOTES. We will also be posting on our on-campus movie streaming site, NovoFlix with different types of movies relating to civic engagement.

Litty with the City: The Campus Vote Project Fellow will invite local Sarasota government officials to campus to give students an opportunity to ask general questions about how local government works, and the importance of it. Sarasota City Commissioner Liz Alpert and City Manager Tom Barwin will engage with students through a panel discussion about local government. The topics will be a range of local elections, census information, and more.

Do you have Common Census?: The Campus Vote Project Fellows will coordinate with a student organization to create a trivia-based upon the upcoming 2020 Census to get students engaged in the census in a fun way.

VoteFest: The SAuCE office and CVP Fellows will plan a VoteFest which will include Rachel Denton, Communications & Voter Outreach Manager of SRQ County Supervisor of Elections, representatives from the 2020 Census team, international students to do a “world of politics” table, student organization Democracy Matters involved, and the New College library to promote the civic literacy exam required for all students entering New College from 2018 and on. This a way to provide students with more information about the upcoming election, and census. This will also target students that are already registered to be more engaged with the other aspects of democracy outside of registration.

STEMulating Stats: This will be an event targeting STEM majors to be more civically engaged with democracy. This will be a presentation/ discussion by a faculty member about how STEM and democracy intersects within the United States. The discussion will be on various topics such as environmental protection, data science & artificial intelligence, public health issues, urban planning, public policy, economic development, public safety, and more. This can be done twice a year or once a semester.

Race Power and Politics : This event/ workshop will look at the intersectionality of race, power, and politics within democracy. There will be a special guest invited to challenge students to look at the systems in the United States and how racism is infiltrated into those systems.

Women in Politics/Leadership: This will be a panel event inviting diverse women to talk about their experiences within politics on a local & national level. This event will be during the month of March to recognize the importance of women’s efforts in society.

Brewing over the issues: A monthly event led by the Campus Vote Project Fellows to discuss various topics relating to voter education over coffee, and snacks.

Popcorn & Politics: SAuCE and the CVP fellows will show movies throughout the semester with a discussion afterwards. We will use Novoflix to help select movies that will engage students to think critically about how democracy works.

Debate Watch Party: Have students meet in the Hamilton Center to watch the Presidential debate on Tuesday, Nov 3rd.

Assessment Plans

The SauCE Office will track the engagement of students using the following methods:

Event Participation

- All events will be housed on our engagement platform NovoConnect. Using this system will be able to have an accurate number of participants for each event through the check-in process. Once students are checked in, their participation will be on their co-curricular transcript. Which will then lead to students building towards their Civic Literacy badge

National Report

- Using the NSLVE Report to help measure our efforts in increasing civic engagement within our student body. This report will help SAuCE target specific populations of students that are not actively engaged. It will also help to determine if our civic engagement programming is making an impact on students.

Pre and Post Evaluations

- Before each event, students will be asked to share what they know on the topic and once again after the event.

