

All In Democracy Challenge – Missouri Western State University

Missouri Western Election Activities Committee:

Chair:

Brad Stanton
Assistant Director of External Relations
Student Government Association

Administration Members:

Brandt Shields	Shana Meyer
Director of External Relations	Vice President for Student Affairs
President’s Office	Student Affairs

Faculty Members:

Dr. Edwin Taylor	Dr. David Tushaus
Associate Professor	Professor
Political Science	Legal Studies

Student Members:

Alec Guy	Brent Rosenauer	Austin Bauer	Kurt Bowman	Gillian Evans
President	Managing Editor	President	Student	Director of Public Relations
Student Government Association	Griffon News	Politics Club	Political Science Major	Student Government Association

Composition:

Missouri Western is utilizing a cross-cutting institutional approach to planning activities related to voter participation. The Student Government Association is leading the charge along with the Division of Student Affairs and the President’s Office. Additionally, the Political Science Department is providing vital assistance. The Missouri Western Election Activities Committee will meet weekly until the November 8 election.

We have purchased an institutional TurboVote package to allow for easy voter registration, absentee ballot applications, and reminders for increased participation. We are also utilizing the National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement for data on Missouri Western’s voting population.

Goals:

The National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement provided by Tufts University tells us that in the 2012 Presidential Election Missouri Western had 5,307 students enrolled with 3,923 (75%) registered to vote and 2,464 (47.1%) voted. We have set the goal of increasing both of these 5% to 4120 students and 2,587 students respectively.

## Events:

**Debate Watch Parties:** Our flagship events will be watch parties of the Presidential and Vice Presidential Debates. We will provide food and drink and activities surrounding the debates. We will also use the debates as a platform for getting students to opt-in to using TurboVote's services.

**TurboVote integration:** We will be integrating TurboVote into Missouri Western's IT platforms so that students, faculty, and staff can easily access TurboVote and, in turn, easily register to vote, receive absentee ballots, and be reminded of when important deadlines are.

**Giant Banner in Student Union:** As a committee wanted to foster healthy competition across campus related to voting. To achieve those ends, we are going to create a banner to hang in our student union that A.) advertises our activities and B.) allows students to place their "I Voted" sticker underneath their Residence Hall column on the banner. At the election night party we will announce which residence hall had the highest percent of voter turnout so they may win a prize!

**Election Day:** On Election Day, we want to ensure that students have easy access to the polls. We will provide Election Mobiles (busses) to carry students from the Residence Halls to the polling place that all of our Residence Halls vote at (approximately  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile away from campus). After the polls close, we will hold an Election Night Party on campus to celebrate voting and the end of the Election Cycle. We will have food, drink, games, and televised coverage as the vote counts come rolling in.

## Schedule of events:

September 19 – Constitution Day event

September 26 – Debate Watch Party

October 3 through November 8 – Banner in Student Union detailing efforts

October 4 – Debate Watch Party

October 6 – Student Mock Presidential Debate

October 9 – Debate Watch Party

October 12- Last Day to Register to Vote

October 19 – International Student Panel on Outside Perspectives of the Presidential Race

October 19 – Debate Watch Party

November 8 – Election Mobiles to Polls

November 8 – Election Night Party