



A Cross-University Challenge to Support
Improved Student Democratic
Engagement

By the numbers:



- 15 member institutions in ACC
- Approximately 325,000 students enrolled at ACC institutions

Important facts:

Historically, just 39% of young adults aged 18-29 vote in presidential election years, and ~20% vote in midterm elections.

Nationally, students in STEM fields are less likely than their peers to vote, and education majors vote at the highest rates.

→ However, we saw a historic 20% increase in college student voter participation nation-wide in the 2018 midterms, largely due to efforts of specific initiatives like what we propose with “DemocrACCy”!



What IS *democratic engagement and civic education*?

A combination of promoting the education of students for engaged participation through democratic participation in their communities, respect and appreciation of diversity, applied learning, and social responsibility.



Activities of DemocrACCy (Planning in progress)

- Create an ACC-wide competition for students
 - Voter registration and participation, improved voting culture
- Curricular involvement

How can we share resources and best practices for infusing democratic engagement in the curriculum in ways that increases *critical thinking* and *information literacy*?

 - Stakeholders: instructional faculty
 - Ally: teaching effectiveness centers
- Student-focused initiatives & Co-curricular involvement
 - Role of student organizations
 - Role of programming
 - Athlete engagement
 - Collective PR, media, communication