

THE ELECTION EXPERIENCE

ACTION PLAN

**COLLEGE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AND
PROFESSIONAL STUDIES**

UW-Parkside, Fall 2016

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
PARKSIDE



Election experience action plan

[The University of Wisconsin-Parkside](#) is a proud member of the University of Wisconsin System and is centrally located in the thriving metropolitan region defined by Milwaukee, 30 miles to the north, and Chicago, 60 miles to the south. The university plays vital roles in preparing students for an enriched quality of life, and encouraging the entrepreneurship essential to regional growth. Graduates benefit from diverse opportunities with major employers, the public sector, and emerging organizations in southeastern Wisconsin and northeastern Illinois. Founded in 1968, UW-Parkside is home to 4500 students, 87% of whom are from Wisconsin. The campus is the most diverse in the UW System with 30% of our students are under- represented minorities, 57% are low income, and 24% are aged 25 or older.



The University of Wisconsin-Parkside has had an active program in civic engagement, promoting volunteerism, internships and community based learning projects. In 2006, it was part of the American Democracy Project, preparing students for active participation in the 2008 election process through cooperatives across diverse departments and community partners. Indeed, community engagement is a nationally recognized hallmark of distinction for UW-Parkside embedded in an institutional commitment fostering civic-minded students, alumni, staff and faculty who provide scholarship, leadership, resources and services to the local and global community. Engagement is a hallmark of the institution as evidenced in our second Carnegie Classification, our office of Continuing Education and Community Engagement, and our Certificate in Community Based Learning.

The College of Social Sciences and Professional Studies is similarly geared towards civic engagement with the goal to develop society's professionals- an educated workforce based on responsible citizenship at the local, national, and global levels.

Taken together, it is a natural progression to become laser focused on the presidential election as an opportunity to engage students not only in the election, but in the

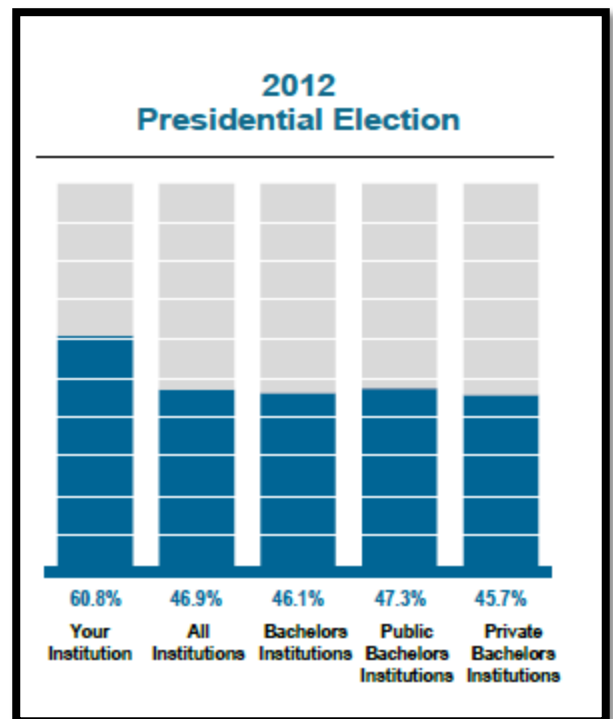
processes of democracy, the issues of local national and global communities, and the implications of a government held accountable to its citizens.

Results from our engagement efforts in the election experience of 2012 demonstrate some success in that area. Student voting rates reported by the National Study of Learning Voting and Engagement (NSLVE) for 2014 indicate that, at a 60.8% voting rate, Parkside was 14% higher than the average for all other participating institutions (N= 850) in the study.

In Fall 2016, the Politics Philosophy and Law Department of UW-Parkside proposes to lead the Social Science Division, and others on the campus and in the community in a co-curricular project designed as a *multilevel engaged learning opportunity* with numerous chances for participants (including students, faculty and staff), and the larger community outside the campus. The semester-long effort seeks to engage students not only in the presidential election through registration and voting; it seeks to build civic responsibility that transcends the campaign, and continues beyond the election.

Components of the project include a class centered on the election experience, a series of co-curricular events from the beginning of the semester to the last day of classes, and a coordination of class content to the co-curricular events. Select courses in the Social Science Division (Criminal Justice, Geography, History, International Studies, Politics Philosophy and Law, Sociology/Anthropology) will coordinate portions of the election experience course materials with other courses. Throughout the semester, events

will be sponsored by these departments that are directly and indirectly related to the Election Experience. The second level is the integration of courses with the events, where class material has application in the election coverage and discussion on campus, or where the class itself is informed/enhanced by other disciplinary contributions to the course. Finally the third, nested, level is the Election Experience course itself, where enrolled students will be at the core of the engagement, and will have the highest opportunity for the development of civic responsibility. A sample of Events planned for the Fall semester include: 1. televised presidential and vice presidential debates with post debate analysis; 2. Brown bags, 3. Speak-outs, 4. Speakers series, and 5. Displays –



Historic Newspaper Headlines and studies of the individuals who LOST the presidential elections. McClenney and Marti (2006) report that “one of the most consistent predictors of persistence, self-reported learning gains, and GPA is “Active and Collaborative Learning,” which includes “participated in a community-based project as part of a regular course” and other activities commonly part of high-quality service-learning. If we assume that this active learning can be extended throughout the campus, we see that the impact is manifest in the retaining of information, the appreciation of the significance of the learning, and the willingness to disseminate information on the issue to their own peer networks. Since civic engagement is strongly connected to retention, involvement in this project will connect students to a mission supported through the university. Additionally students learn to take responsibility for their own learning and understand its relevance to the real world. In fall 2016, as students, faculty, and the entire campus community become more familiar with the election experience, a synergy will be created that reinforces the commitment of those involved. Outcomes for students will be an increased understanding of the electoral process, the ability to communicate information in a targeted and effective manner, and a greater sense of citizenship to their community.

THE ELECTION EXPERIENCE

September:

Display case 9/12-9/16

Friday, 9/9

- Election Experience Kick-Off - Political Jams 12-1 pm (Student Center)

Parkside welcomes students with a political music jam session at noon on Friday, September 9 at the Brickstone Grill. Special guests include Paul Aceto and Professor Joe Person from the Politics, Philosophy and Law Department.

- First Friday 4-5 pm (Wyllie 247)

First Friday is a social event for all Parkside faculty and staff members. This semester kickoff event is hosted by the Politics, Philosophy and Law department and the Center for Professional Studies. Attendees will learn about the Election Experience. On display will be election artifacts, courtesy of the UW-Parkside Library.

Monday, 9/12

- Historic Headlines (Concourse)

Poster display in the concourse featuring headlines from Election Day in the past.

Wednesday, 9/14

- "Clowns to the left of me, Jokers to the Right," Dr. Peggy James, Politics, Philosophy and Law Department Brown Bag 12-1pm (Walnut Room)

Thursday, 9/15

- Editorialists Cartoonists: Taming the Tigers 7:30-8:30 pm, Festival of Cartooning 9/15-9/17; Public Lecture 9/15, 7-9pm

In conjunction with the Kenosha Festival of Cartooning, Taming the Tigers presents a range of editorial cartoons focused on the 2016 presidential election, issues of free speech, and messages of peace. Featured participants at this year's festival include Anne Telnaes, Jen Sorensen, and Wiley Miller, among other cartoonists.

Friday, 9/16

- Constitution Day 12-1 pm (Poplar Room)

Hosted by Professor Ross Astoria come learn about the Electoral College and propose amendments to our way of voting.

Tuesday, 9/20

- “The Coming Makeover of American Politics,” Mike McCabe, Blue Jean Nation Founder 3:30-4:30 pm (MOLN D139)

Blue Jean Nation founder and president Mike McCabe is the author of “Blue Jeans in High Places: The Coming Makeover of American Politics” and for 15 years was the executive director of the Wisconsin Democracy Campaign, a nonpartisan watchdog group that specializes in tracking the money in state elections and works for reforms aimed at making people matter more than money in politics. A much sought-after public speaker, Mike has made more than 1,500 presentations to a wide range of audiences over the course of his professional career.

Wednesday, 9/21

- “Political Ethics: Not your Average Oxymoron” Dr. Christopher Hudspeth, Politics Philosophy and Law 12-1pm (Spruce Room)

Monday, 9/26

- “Do Words Matter? The Rhetoric of Presidential Politics,” Lecture by Jonathan Shailor, Communication Department 12-1 pm (Room TBD)
 - Debate 1 hosted by Dr. Craig Frizzell 7:00-9:00 pm (The Den)
- Come watch the first national debate in The Den. Pizza will be served!

Wednesday, 9/28

- “Democracy around the World: What does it mean?” Professor Kate Gillogly, Sociology/Anthropology Department Brown Bag 12-1pm (MOLN 112)

OCTOBER:

Display case 10/3-10/7- Election Experience in the Student Center

Monday, 10/3

- Presidential Losers (Concourse)

We all know what happens when people win the election, but what about those who lose? Check out the poster display in the concourse.

Tuesday, 10/4

- VP Debate 7:00-9:00 pm (The Den)

Pizza will be served.

Wednesday, 10/5

- "Candidate Views on Criminal Justice Issues: A Brief Overview" Philip Wagner, Criminal Justice Department Brown Bag 12-1pm (Walnut Room)
- "A Look at the 2016 Elections in Wisconsin and the Nation" Charles Franklin, Professor of Law and Public Policy and Director of the Marquette Law School Poll 3:30-4:30 (MOLN 107)

Nationally recognized government scholar and pollster Charles Franklin has been director of the Marquette Law School Poll since its inception in 2012 and became a full-time member of the faculty in 2013. Since joining Marquette as a professor of law and public policy in August 2013, Franklin has used the poll to continue tracking political races of interest to voters and explore additional public policy issues. He has been a member of the ABC News election night analysis team since 2002.

Sunday, 10/9

- Presidential Debate 7:00-9:00 pm (The Den)

Monday, 10/10

- Propaganda Posters by Professor Kristin Bartel's class
- Word Shop 12-1pm (Ballroom)

A hands on workshop using word clouds to unveil the embedded message in political news articles.

Tuesday, 10/11

- “How the Media Shapes Politics: A Journalist’s Review on the Election” John Nichols, National Affairs Correspondent for “The Nation” 3:30-4:30 pm (MOLN D139)

John Nichols, a pioneering political blogger, writes about politics for The Nation magazine as its national affairs correspondent. His posts have been circulated internationally, quoted in numerous books, and mentioned in debates on the floor of Congress. Nichols is a contributing writer for The Progressive and In These Times and the associate editor of the Capital Times, the daily newspaper in Madison, Wisconsin. His articles have appeared in the New York Times, Chicago Tribune and dozens of other newspapers.

Wednesday, 10/12

“The State of the U.S. Economy: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly,” Professor Norm Cloutier, Economics Department Brown Bag 12-1pm (Walnut Room)

The 2007-2009 recession is considered by many economists to be the most severe since the Great Depression. This presentation will consider the recovery of key economic indicators during the Obama administration, the current health of the U.S. economy, and the challenges facing the next president.

Wednesday, 10/19

- “The Politics of Global Warming,” Brown Bag presentation by Professor Ross Astoria, Politics, Philosophy and Law 12-1pm (Walnut Room)
- Debate 3 7:00-9:00 pm (The Den)

Tuesday, 10/25

- “The Eight Supremes: How One Voice Can Make A Difference” Dr. Robert Smith, Associate Professor of History at UW-Milwaukee 3:30-4:30 pm (MOLN D139)
Dr. Robert S. Smith is an Associate Professor of History at UWM, Director of the Cultures & Communities Program, and was recently appointed Associate Vice Chancellor for Global Inclusion & Engagement. He is the author of "Race, Labor and Civil Rights: Griggs v. Duke Power and the Struggle for Equal Employment Opportunity."
- “Students Respond: Election 2016” – 10/25-11/24
Foundation gallery infographics on display by Professor Carrie Water’s class.

Wednesday, 10/26

“The Presidential Candidates – U.S. Foreign Policy on the Middle East” Professor Elizabeth Brownson, History Department Brown Bag 12-1pm (Walnut Room)

Monday, 10/31

Speak Out 12-1pm (Wyllie Main Place)

Wyllie is transformed into an area of open public speaking, debate and discussion. Come and utilize your right to speak!

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER:

Monday, 11/7

- “The Day Before” Straw Poll 12-1pm

Tuesday, 11/8

- ELECTION DAY! /Ice Cream Social 11-1am (The Bridge)

Chancellor Ford and Provost Ducoffe will be dishing out free ice cream to people who have voted on the bridge

Wednesday, 11/9

- “The Day After: Election Re-cap” Professor Christopher Hudspeth, Politics, Philosophy and Law Department Brown Bag 12-1pm (Walnut Room)

Monday, 11/14

- “Mapping the Election” John Ward’s Class – Posters (Wyllie Main Place) 12-1 pm

Wednesday, 11/16

- “(When) Should We Worry About Government Budget Deficits?” Professor Farida Khan, Economics Department Brown Bag 12-1pm (Walnut Room)

Wednesday, 11/30

- Salaam-Shalom, For Harmony in the Holy Land 11 am-1:00 pm (Ballroom)
Music by

Thursday, 12/1

- Civitas Eventus
Posters 12-1pm (The Bridge)
Presentations 1-3 pm (Spruce Room)

Wednesday, 12/7 (Pearl Harbor Day)

- TBD Brown Bag (Walnut Room)