



***Berkeley City College: Civic Engagement
ALL IN CAMPUS DEMOCRACY
CHALLENGE ACTION PLAN
FALL 2018***



Berkeley City College: Civic Engagement

Berkeley City College’s mission is to promote student success, to provide our diverse community with educational opportunities, and to transform lives. The College achieves its mission through instruction, student support and learning resources which enable its enrolled students to earn associate degrees and certificates, and to attain college competency, careers, transfer, and skills for lifelong success.

Vision:

Berkeley City College is a premier, diverse, student-centered learning community, dedicated to academic excellence, collaboration, innovation, and transformation.

Demographics:

A diverse student population adds to the richness of BCC’s learning community. In Fall 2017, approximately 7,000 students enrolled at Berkeley City College. They were 25% Caucasian; 15% African American; 22.7% Asian-Pacific Islander; 25% Latino; 7% Multiple Race/Ethnicity; 4% declined to state; and less than 1% American Indian/Alaska Native. Berkeley City College students’ average age is 26 years, with more than half between 19 and 24 years of age.

Executive Summary of BCC Civic Engagement:

Civic and Community Engagement (CCE) at Berkeley City College (BCC) seeks to integrate the college community — students, faculty, staff and administration— in efforts to engage and improve the social, economic, and political interests of the East Bay Area. This integration creates working relationships in where students gain first hand experience applying democratic principles of participation and outreach. BCC Civic Engagement emphasizes the importance of giving back to the community and works to expose students to a variety of grassroots organizing and capacity building techniques to help build power for social change. Although BCC Civic Engagement has a local focus, we consider state, national, and international issues interconnected and of vital importance to our local community and seek to outreach at these levels as well. To help in this effort the College Shared Governance bodies of BCC voted to adopt the following

definition of Civic Engagement as proposed by Dr. Thomas Ehrlich and colleagues in *Civic Responsibility and Higher Education*: “Civic engagement means working to make a difference in the civic life of our communities and developing the combination of knowledge, skills, values and motivation to make that difference. It means promoting the quality of life in a community, through both political and non-political processes” (Preface, p.vi). “A morally and civically responsible individual recognizes himself or herself as a member of a larger social fabric and therefore considers social problems to be at least partly his or her own; such an individual is willing to see the moral and civic dimensions of issues, to make and justify informed moral and civic judgments, and to take action when appropriate” (Introduction, p. xx). Ultimately, the goal of Civic and Community Engagement work at Berkeley City College is to instill a sense of civic responsibility in the community we serve through an inclusive approach that empowers all to become informed citizens and lifelong activists.

History & Context of BCC Civic Engagement Work:

- **2010:** College-wide dialogue of Civic Engagement work at BCC begins. Outcomes: Website launched and Student Civic Engagement Club formed.
- **2010:** BCC helped organized “March in March” events at City Hall in San Francisco and at the Capitol in Sacramento.
- **2010:** BCC helped organize a “Campus Camp” leadership training retreat at our sister college (Laney College) in partnership with Wellstone Action.
- **2011:** BCC Civic Engagement club hosts “Celebrating 100 Years of Woman Suffrage in CA” in partnership with the Berkeley/Albany/Emeryville chapter of CA League of Women Voters.
- **2011 & 2012:** BCC Civic Engagement awarded University of California Chancellor’s Community Partnership Grants. Partnership between BCC Civic Engagement & UC Berkeley Public Service Center (formerly “Cal Corps”). Result: est. BCC/UC Transfer-Service Community.
- **2012:** BCC Civic Engagement & Political Science Department host “GOTV” efforts for General Election. Campus conducts Voter Registration events and hosts “Obama VS Romney Presidential Debate Watch Parties”. BCC “Young Democrats” host two phone-banking events in coordination with Assemblymember Nancy Skinner’s office and the “Yes on Prop 30” campaign.
- **2012:** BCC Civic Engagement hosts Emerald Cities Collaborative with Bay Area community partners.
- **2013:** Service-Learning “Focused Inquiry Groups” (FIGs) used to explore Cross-Curricular Service-Learning work in Political Science, Art and Public & Human Service Programs
- **2014:** BCC awarded membership into *The Democracy Commitment*

- **2014:** BCC hosts “Jerry Brown VS Meg Whitman Gubernatorial Debate Watch Parties”
- **2014:** In partnership with the California League of Women Voters, BCC hosts a “Pro/Con Panel” on all Statewide propositions & serves as the host for all Assembly District 15 candidate debates between Tony Thurmond & Elizabeth Echols.
- **2015:** BCC Political Science and Global Studies students attend the Spring 2015 Stanford University WSD Handa Center for Human Rights & International Justice event. This event featured a special “meet & greet” for BCC students with UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (Navi Pillay).
- **2015:** BCC Veterans Club hosts “Flag Day Event” in partnership with local Veterans Chapters.
- **2016:** BCC forms “Rethink Justice Project” in an effort to better understand more deeply integrate Social Justice pedagogy into college work.
- **2016:** BCC forms the “Undocumented Student Taskforce” & establishes the Undocumented Community Resource Center in an effort to help provide support, resources and protections for CA Dreamers and DACA recipients.
- **2016:** BCC Political Science Student Association hosts “2016 Clinton VS Trump Presidential Debate Watch Parties”
- **2017:** BCC hires Civic Engagement/Service-Learning coordinator
- **2017:** In Partnership with Congresswoman Barbara Lee’s office, BCC students attend Congressional Black Caucus events in Washington D.C.
- **2017:** BCC joins the City of Berkeley Mayor’s Sanctuary Taskforce.
- **2017:** BCC dedicated Fall Professional Development activities to a “Teaching, Working and Learning in the Trump Era” public narrative and resources workshop.
- **2018:** BCC hosts “A People’s State of the Union” Story Circles Project.
- **2018:** Student from the Muslim Student Association, the Black Student Union and Civic Engagement Club host events in campus-wide celebrations and speaker panels during Black History Month (February) and Women’s History Month (March).



Campus Leadership & Coalition Partners:

- Matthew Freeman (Program Coordinator of Political Science Department & BCC Democracy Commitment Campus Coordinator)
- Andre Singleton (Director of Student Activities and Campus Life)
- Campus Life Office Student Employees (Kamila & Ashlee)
- Campus Committees and Work Groups: (List Names of committees and groups on campus that can be involved)
- Civic-Learning/Community Engagement/Social Responsibility Instructional Programs with active Faculty support:
 - Political Science Program
 - Sociology Program
 - Humanities Department
 - Communication Program
 - English Department
 - Ethnic Studies Program
 - Art Program
 - Multi-Media Arts Department

- Student Services (Groups)
 - Veterans Affairs
 - Extended Opportunity Programs and Services (EOPS)
 - Disabled Students Program and Services (DSPS)
 - Counseling Department
 - Undocumented Community Resource Center (UCRC)
 - Underground Scholars in partnership with UC Berkeley
 - Associated Students of BCC:
 - Executive Council GOTV Task Force
 - Campus Clubs/Groups:
 - Civic Engagement Club
 - Muslim Student Association
 - Black Student Union
 - Latino Leadership Cultural Club
 - Women's Leadership Club

- Community Partners for Civic Engagement Work
 - League of Women Voters (Berkeley, Albany, Emeryville)
 - Alameda County Voter Registrar

- President Circle Community Partners

Fall 2018 Civic Engagement Action Plan



Voter Registration

On Campus Voter Reg printed forms and Online Reg - *Berkeley City College (BCC) student clubs are going to table each week leading up to the 2018 General Election. League of Women Voters chapter will host "How to Register Voters" workshops. College website/homepage will have an "Register to Vote" widget/button provided by the CA Secretary of State office.*

New students Orientation/Welcome Week - *During "Welcome Week" new BCC students will be given the opportunity to register to vote and informed of Fall 2018 campus election activities.*

Club Rush Week - *BCC Student clubs (Civic Engagement Club, Black Student Union, Muslim Student Association, Latino Leadership Cultural Club) will be tabling to raise awareness about club activities, conduct voter registration and provide information on Fall 2018 Election Activities.*

Constitution Day - *Students from the Associated Students of BCC (student Government leaders) in partnership with Political Science Faculty and the League of Women Voters will host an "Evolution of Citizenship and Voting in the US Constitution" panel.*

National Voter Registration Day - *BCC Student will be taking shifts throughout the day to table and canvas the campus for voter registration.*

Campus Emails - *The Director of Student Activities & Campus Life and the BCC Democracy Commitment Coordinator will be emailing the entire college community about all upcoming events on campus and important dates pertaining to voter registration efforts on campus.*

Voter Education

League of Women Voters Candidate Debate Panel - BCC will be working with the Berkeley/Albany/Emeryville chapter of the League of Women Voters to host a debate between the two candidates running for the CA State Assembly seat near the college.

Gubernatorial Debate Watch Parties - *BCC Students in the Civic Engagement Club and Faculty from the Political Science Department will host an event open to the public where people can watch and discuss the Live televised CA Gubernatorial Debates.*

“Pro/Con” Propositions Panel - *BCC will host a panel featuring a team of members from the League of Women Voters who will present the published arguments and analysis for and against all statewide propositions that will appear on the November ballot.*

Campus Wide Emails - *The Director of Student Activities & Campus Life and the BCC Democracy Commitment Coordinator will be emailing the entire college community about all upcoming events on campus and important dates pertaining to Voter Information activities on campus.*

Get Out The Vote (GOTV) Phase:

Early Voting Access/Support

Campus Life Office support - *BCC Campus Life Office and Student Ambassadors help desk will serve as “drop-in” locations on campus where students can come to get information on registering to vote, voting early and finding polling location on election day.*

College Website Support/Tabling for helping students find polling location - *BCC Website will use the “find your precinct” tool provided by the CA Secretary of State office to help anyone that visits the website find the location of where to vote on election day. Student Clubs will also be tabling the week before the election with laptops to help students find their polling location.*

Election Day Poll Worker Interns through the Alameda County Voter Registrar - *BCC students who have been employed by the Alameda County Registrar office will serve as Poll Workers on Election Day.*

Campus Wide Emails - *The Director of Student Activities & Campus Life and the BCC Democracy Commitment Coordinator will be emailing the entire college community about early voting access and important dates pertaining to Voter Information activities on campus.*

Social Media - *The Director of Student Activities & Campus Life and the BCC Public Information Officer will post events, activities, and voter information on the college’s social media outlets (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc.)*

Flyer/Posters/Digital Monitors - *The Director of Student Activities & Campus Life and the BCC Public Information Officer will Commitment Coordinator will be emailing the entire college community about early voting access and important dates pertaining to Voter Information activities on campus.*

Election Day Turnout & Celebration (Nov 6)

Election Day Party - *The ASBCC in partnership with the League of Women Voters will decorate the college Atrium with balloons, streamers and signs to get students excited to about voting. Food and drink will be provided.*

Election Day Results Watch Party - *The Office of Campus Life and the Political Science host an Elections Night watch party on campus in the Auditorium to watch the results of 2018 election.*

Timeline:

The designated primary and secondary contacts will collaborate with the coalition to focus on elements of the plan. Initial planning took place at the Civic Learning and Democratic Engagement Meeting this summer and specific task assignment were already delegated.

Fall classes begin in August but communication plan and strategy will be developed (emails, fliers, social media, etc.).

*Events not mentioned that will be included in the fall: AD15 Candidate Debate Event, “Pro/Con Propositions Panel” event, 2018 CA Gubernatorial Debate Watch Parties

August 2018						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 ASBCC Training & Orientation	9 ASBCC Training & Orientation	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17 College-Wide Flex Day	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28 New Student Welcome Week	29 New Student Welcome Week	30 New Student Welcome Week	31	
Goals: Present the VFC efforts to the Associated Students during their summer training and orientation						

Information sharing regarding VFC work and events (College Faculty and Staff)
 Present the VFC efforts to Incoming students during Welcome Week

September 2018						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4 Club Rush Week	5 Club Rush Week	6 Club Rush Week	7	8
9	10	11 Voter Registration Tabling	12	13	14	15
16	17 Constitution Day	18 Voter Registration Tabling	19	20	21	22
23	24	25 National Voter Registration Day	26	27	28	29
30						
Goals: Utilize College and Student events as an opportunity to register students to vote and publicize future events Contextualize the history of voting and the systemic barriers to traditional marginalized groups in US elections						

October 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 Voter Registration Tabling	3	4	5	6
7	8	9 Voter Registration Tabling	10	11	12	13
14	15	16 Voter Registration Tabling	17	18	19	20
21	22 Last Day to Register to Vote	23	24	25 Professional Development Day	26	27
28	29	30 Mock Voting Booth Activity	31			

Goals:

Utilize College and Student events as an opportunity to register students to vote and publicize future events
 Introduce mock voting activity to prepare and educate students for the election day and what to expect

November 2018						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6 Election Day Results Watch Party	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	
Goals: Celebrate with the community						

Measures of Success:

- Track number of new students registered to votes
- Assess the number of students that voted (exit polling data from NSLVE) when available & Compare to BCC 2014 Midterm Turnout (GOAL: Increase turnout by 20%)
- Track the number of students that attend events
- Student Success stories - Story of Self/Story of Us/Story of Now