

2018 Election

About 30 classroom days are available to Register voters on campus. And about 30 calendar days will be available to work on raising voting awareness before the November election. Registration efforts will start before classes begin.

Registration

Freshman orientation

The entire group was given the opportunity to register at once. Two groups that accounted for 1700 individuals were addressed and the process of registering on a phone was explained step by step.

Classrooms

Faculty are being asked to give up a 10- to 15-minute portion of their class time to allow volunteers to help students register. So far about 40 classroom visits have been scheduled.

Registration Events

Three large-scale Registration events with food and/or music will occur on September 17th and September 25th and 27th.

Tables

Tables outside food venues will be available at mealtime for students to register. At least Scranton Commons, Student Services and Monty's are planned to be used. The dates are National Voter Registration Day, Sept. 25, and October 3rd.

Personnel for registration efforts

Meetings have been held this summer and are ongoing with various groups who have pledged to help. They include campus representatives from both political parties, Honors Program, and faculty representatives. Also, the faculty union and the political science club are helping. And work-study students from the Civic Engagement Center and from The Center for Community Research and Consulting will be available.

Department mobilization

English Department

The members have offered access to all 100-level English classes. This will include most if not all freshmen and many sophomores which are the groups most likely to be unregistered.

Invitations to classes have already yielded about 40 classes as of 9-17-18. Those who don't want to give up class time will be able to direct students to a table in the lobby of Bakeless staffed by English faculty members.

They will also help to register at tables of planned events.

A Bakeless lobby registration table will be available when classroom visits in English are underway.

In-class reminders for deadlines (last day to register, first day to apply for absentee ballot, etc.) will be offered as well as help with absentee ballots, etc.

The Registrar's Office and Financial Aid Office are sending reminders and information about voting directly to students. This is the first time in our efforts ever that we have been able to send things directly to each student.

Specific help for New Jersey and New York students for registration, absentee ballots, etc. is being offered.

Political Science Department

Access to non-major classes with large numbers of freshmen and sophomores will be given. Also, other classes in political Science will be available. Political Science Club registering fellow students in Gen Ed Political Science classes, and in other majors' classrooms.

Student Publications

The advisors of the student newspaper and online magazine met and will begin to help students learn about registering as well as about the issues in the election. They will help us publicize events and registration opportunities. Also Husky Synch now features the link to register to vote and will have links to other voter information.

Get Out the Vote Issue Programming

Candidates for U.S. House of Representatives

The Democrats' candidate has already indicated a willingness to come to speak. The Republican candidate has not yet responded. Speaking engagements seem more likely than a debate.

Democrat's candidate for Lt.Governor is scheduled to visit campus during registration activities on Sept. 25th

Speakers and Films

PA Rep. Brian Sims – BU Alumnus who speaks about the importance of non-federal candidates in the election and will speak on the importance of voting on September 27th during registration activities.

Capturing the Flag – A documentary film about voter suppression has been ordered and will be scheduled as soon as it arrives. When purchased it was on back order, so we don't have the date of this one, yet.

Additional films will be screened and some issue-related programming is being developed by political science faculty for GOTV efforts.