

**CAPITAL
UNIVERSITY
2024
ALL-IN
CHALLENGE
ACTION PLAN**

Executive Summary

Capital University has a rich history of civic and community engagement. Capital students, faculty, and staff are dedicated community members who care about the communities, both locally and globally. For several years, a cross-university team has worked together to “get out the vote” encouraging students to register and vote, either by absentee ballot or by changing their voting location to Capital University. Capital’s ALL IN Action Plan was written, and the cross-university team is led by the Associate Director of Student and Community Engagement and the Associate Provost.

Our primary focus is intentional programming by way of identifying impactful programs and practices to encourage underrepresented groups to participate in each election season. This will be done through active collaboration with our Office of Diversity and Inclusion, an office that gives additional support to our multicultural organizations. We will raise awareness about voter suppression tactics, teach the history of obtaining voting rights, and encourage our students that their vote matters. Capital University will continue to further engage student-athletes to help spread awareness. A second focus will be on programming, provided by campus entities and student organizations to promote voting awareness, voter education, and election celebrations. Such programs will specialize in voter registration, engagement with the campaigns of local politicians while maintaining a nonpartisan status, and spreading awareness on the evolution of human rights concerning voting. The goal Capital University hopes to achieve is to include various campus departments to reach a more diverse set of community members in their promotion of the topics listed as the second focus. It is a priority to ensure a voice is given to underrepresented communities by giving them the resources and knowledge they need to be included in discussions on political and social matters.

Though Capital University’s ALL-IN Action Plan is created to be implemented within the course of two years, many of the institution’s short- and long-term goals will be continuous efforts. The summer months are dedicated to planning all fall and spring events for national and state level holidays, and planning campaigns or activities to engage athletics and our academic programs. The plan can only be implemented with the help of the cross-university team. It takes everyone’s commitment to promote and attend university events surrounding voter education, voter registration and other civic engagement initiatives.

Leadership

The Office of Student and Community Engagement (SCE) serves as the primary leadership driver of a campus-wide team dedicated to advancing civic engagement of Capital University students. The campus- wide team

coordinates participation in programs through regular meetings and email communication. The group also works directly with civic-minded student organizations to promote and support programming focused on civic engagement, and specifically, on participation in the election process as a voter. The campus-wide team is also collaborating with local chapters of organizations/agencies who have the mission to promote voter education and participation in the election season.

Capital University is dedicated to promoting civic engagement and voter education. Over the past decade, this commitment has resulted in increased voter registration and higher voting rates amongst students and increased civic engagement programming on campus. Sustained increases in voter registration and participation remains an institutional goal for Capital University.

- Jody S. Fournier, PhD, Provost

There are multiple campus entities at Capital University who prioritize inclusivity in the realm of making a change, and one way is through voting and voter education. In our Columbus and Bexley communities, our underrepresented groups are community members of color and those who practice Judaism. To be intentional and effectively include these communities, we first must analyze why the voter turnout of minority groups is lower in comparison to others. Another way is to make sure we take the initiative to provide translated, and circumstantial (voting with a felony, voting with a disability) voting materials. As a campus that is committed to increasing our involvement in civic and community engagement, as it relates to diversity, equity, and inclusion, we must be intentional about our efforts.

In a recent development as of spring 2024, the Program Director, Tristen Davis has assumed the responsibility of leading the facilitation of Smooth Transitions and MLK Day of Learning. Smooth Transitions is an early arrival program for students who statistically have shown they would benefit from additional support from their college or university. Historically, Smooth Transitions caters to multicultural students and students of lower socioeconomic status. This program helps them adjust to college life, additional interactions with peer mentors, departments, and additional personal, professional, and academic support resources. During Smooth Transitions we will talk about how one's identity may impact a plethora of things during their college career including success in the realm of academia, wellness and prevention, participation and utilization of community and campus resources, as well as being a catalyst for change. The MLK Day of Learning is an annual event held at Capital University on MLK Day. The day consists of a keynote speaker, workshops and jazz brunch and provides ample opportunities for students to learn about the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and how issues addressed during the civil rights movement impact us today. One of those things is the right to vote. We plan on bringing in community partners to address the history of voting rights and advocating for accessible voting for all. In

addition to these programs, Tristen Davis has assumed the responsibility of supporting student-facing diversity, equity and inclusion efforts. This is beneficial to better tie in the offices of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and Student and Community Engagement.

To recruit students to our voting coalition there are three ways of doing so. The first way is through Cap 101. Cap 101 serves as a pre-orientation for first year and transfer students. It is our summer experience that helps students acclimate to Capital University and provides essential transitional resources before they arrive on campus. It is a deeper dive into what we cover during Summer Orientation and helps students prepare for their arrival in August and allows us to get additional information from them as well. In Cap 101, students are directed to a student voting page, where they can register to vote, look at the election timeline, resources we provide, and information about ID laws. Another way to recruit students is through our orientation programs such as Smooth Transitions and Summer Orientation. Students receive multiple resources including information about voting. Lastly is the Student and Community Engagement fair. At this event, all student clubs and organizations, and student facing offices table to recruit students to join or utilize their resources. We have student organizations that focus on specific political parties, political science, and our office shares our voter education resources.

To be more intentional about including faculty and academic affairs personnel, we will continue to host CELT sessions. The Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching focuses on professional and other skill development for faculty and staff at Capital University. We have conducted these CELT sessions on the various facets of the Office of Student and Community Engagement (Community Engagement, Civic Engagement, Cap Cupboard and Cap Closet, AIM, Wellness and Prevention, Campus Activities Board, Student Organizations, Transitions, Fraternity and Sorority Life, and Leadership Development). It helps us share knowledge to help connect what is happening in and outside of the classroom, share resources for faculty to share with students, etc.

If Capital University's primary and secondary contacts for civic engagement efforts were to transition to another institution or another role a succession plan is already in place. The Office of Student and Community Engagement consists of three Associate Directors. One of which specializes in community and civic engagement. However, the other Associate Directors are responsible for understanding the University's civic engagement efforts. If the primary contact were to transition into another role, the other Associate Directors in the SCE would assume the responsibility of promoting and educating campus members on voter education. If the secondary contact, the Associate Provost were to transition, the primary contact would continue programming and facilitating other initiatives as outlined in the action plan.

SCE Leadership Team

Tristen L. Davis

Program Coordinator and Associate Director of Student and Community Engagement

Deanna N. Wagner

Associate Provost, Dean of Engagement and Success and Title IX Coordinator

Campus-Wide Team

- Civic/Community Engagement Intern- *The Civic/Community Engagement Intern works closely with the Office of Student and Community Engagement.*
- Matthew Cook- Head Librarian
- Office of the Provost
- Capital University Athletics
- Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Student Groups

- AIM- Community Engagement and Leadership Development program at Capital University
- Student Government- *Students involved in Student Government are elected by the Capital University student body. Elections occur as their regulations require.*
- Student Athlete Advisory Committee- *Student-athletes from each varsity athletic team are represented on the committee*
- Other student organizations like College Republicans, Young Democrats, Socialist Student Union, and other politically motivated organizations interface in non-partisan voting efforts

Community Partners

- League of Women Voters: Metro Columbus Chapter- Elizabeth Grieser-Operations Manager
- League of Women Voters: State of Ohio- Jen Miller-Executive Director
- Columbus State Community College-Voter Education/Civic and Community Engagement
- Franklin County Board of Elections- Aaron Seller, Public Information Officer

Commitment

Capital University's commitment to promoting civic engagement is evident in various areas across the University, most notably through executive leadership involvement, campus-wide communication, institutional culture, co-curricular inclusion, Signature Learning (General Education) curriculum, and the Social Justice Minor.

Executive Leadership Involvement

From the top of the organization to all parts of the institution, Capital's faculty and staff engage in voting efforts. President Beth Paul (past) and President Dave Kaufman (current) signed the President's Pledge and took the commitment being made seriously. Capital University's Provost Jody Fournier helped to restructure the positions responsible for civic engagement, showcasing the institutional commitment through human and fiscal resources. Truly, institutional leaders are invested in supporting the efforts through these means, and by promoting and attending events and encouraging others on their teams to do the same.

Communication with Campus and Community

Capital University is making continuous efforts to find ways to communicate our commitment to civic engagement and voter participation in an engaging way and in ways in which that will be most appealing to various constituents. Capital University releases a monthly electronic publication called Capital You which helps share news and events across the Bexley campus, Law School campus, and Seminary.

Faculty and staff across academic departments and Student Development units created a Community Action Community of Practice to come together to share best practices to incorporate community and civic engagement into academic courses, promote civic and community engagement amongst students, faculty, and staff, and find ways to pique students' interest in the Social Justice Minor. Members of the community of practice receive a calendar of events and prioritize social justice issues and causes in which we will dedicate our best efforts to institutionalize involvement. In Fall 2023 the community of practice identified civic engagement and voter participation, criminal justice, and food insecurity.

In Fall 2023, the Capital University Blackmore Library started creating civic engagement and social action displays. These civic engagement and social action displays not only provide resources on how to register to vote, but provide the voting timeline, dismantle language barriers in understanding and access to resources, and provide recommendations of books that focus on civic engagement and social action topics. The displays are eye-catching and serve as a powerful tool to draw people to the resources.

Institutional Culture

Educating for civic learning and democratic engagement has not historically been a systematic part of institutional culture but since 2014, has become more consistent, ongoing, and sustainable across the institution. This has been proven by participation in the Take the Pledge by our students, faculty interest in civic engagement programming facilitated by the Office of Student and Community Engagement, and promotion of civic engagement and voter

education information. Faculty, staff, and students are trained and work as poll workers for each election; one such feature can be found here:

<https://www.capital.edu/about/capital-stories/a-steward-of-democracy-a-look-at-civic-engagement-at-capital/>

Co-Curriculum Inclusion

The leadership unit for the All In Challenge, the Office of Student and Community Engagement (SCE), was formed in 2011 to bridge the co-curricular experiences of students both on and off campus. The SCE serves as the University hub for community engagement, serving needs in both curricular and co-curricular community and civic engagement.

The SCE is led by four learning outcomes:

- Students interpret personal interests, values, and identities.
- Students build an inclusive community which respects the human dignity of others.
- Students articulate the value of their Capital experience.
- Students utilize their leadership skills to affect positive change in their personal and professional pursuits.

The SCE sponsors over 100 student organizations and dozens of programs and events each year to enhance the co-curricular experience of students. One such program was launched in Fall 2023, called the AIM Program. The AIM (Advocate, Invest and Mobilize) Program empowers students to actively participate in academic and cocurricular experience through a lens of community engagement, social justice, and civic responsibility. This inclusive community of learners will transform into resilient, ethical citizens and leaders, making meaningful contributions to their current and future communities.

Key Components of AIM

Advocate: to commit to publicly support a cause, a mission, or a policy. Capital University students are encouraged to be advocates of positive societal change.

Invest: to provide someone (a community) with a quality such as time or service to achieve a result. Capital University is deeply invested in surrounding communities, working with community members to help fulfill the mission of our campus partners.

Mobilize: to put one in position to move upward in societal, political, or economic levels (social mobility). Capital University is working with communities to help members achieve upward mobility in all areas: socially, politically, and economically.

Because of their participation in AIM, students will:

1. Connect their academic knowledge to their community engagement experiences.
2. Engage with community partners and peers in a way that signifies respect and acceptance.

3. Articulate their skill development and the positive change created by one's leadership roles throughout their community engagement experiences.
4. Interact with and respect all cultures, identities, and perspectives.

The Community Engagement arm of the AIM Program focuses on five functional areas:

1. Civic engagement/social action
2. Large scale community engagement projects on campus
3. Community engagement and site placement
4. America Reads
5. Cap Cupboard (Capital University's food resource center).

Student interns and students seeking regular student employment serve as Change Advocates, working in one of the above identified areas to better our campus and serve in our community with our neighbors. Change Advocates are hired by the Office of Student and Community Engagement to conduct between 1-12 hours of civic or community engagement work with our community partners per week.

The AIM Program not only emphasizes the importance of community/civic engagement, social action, etc. but also has a leadership development component. The leadership development side of AIM consists of 10 sessions per semester facilitated by various professionals to ensure that students have the knowledge and the tools they need to be influential leaders who are also willing to fulfill their civic duty. Please refer to Figure 2. For the fall 2023 AIM schedule.

Though this program is different from the Bonner Leader model the campus was implementing in the past, the AIM program still prioritizes the transformation of students professionally, personally, and assists in the development of a social justice orientation. In fact, with the opportunity to scale the AIM program to reach an unlimited number of students, the impact of the program on our campus and community can far exceed that of our reach when we focused on the Bonner Program. Our students are tasked with teaching about communal collaboration, advocating for social justice, encouraging students, faculty and staff to serve, and investing time and service in surrounding communities.

ADVOCATE. INVEST. MOBILIZE.

Capital University
Leadership Development #CapLeads

AIM to be an everyday leader and the best version of yourself.

FALL 2023 WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS

<p><u>AIM to be Inclusive</u> Focus on DEI, inclusive language, and how to cultivate a safe space environment as a leader.</p> <p><u>Leadership Bash</u> This is an all day event in which students will develop their own leadership path, learn about the SCE office and its leadership initiatives, and more! Lunch will be provided at this event.</p> <p><u>AIM to Practice Self-Care</u> Learn ways to take care of yourself as a leader. Everyone needs an outlet to relax and recharge in order to be the best version of themselves.</p> <p><u>AIM to Know Your Resources</u> Capital University has so much to offer students. This workshop will take a deep dive into resources on campus and help you utilize all of the tools offered to students.</p> <p><u>AIM to Build Community</u> Go from name-based ice breakers, to team building activities, to trust exercises as you learn ways to build a connected community within a group of students.</p>	<p><u>AIM to be an Informed Citizen</u> Learn about ways to decipher factual news, how to participate in elections and all that Capital will be doing to engage voters this election season.</p> <p><u>AIM to Manage Risk</u> Policies and procedures will be explained as well as ways to ensure you are protecting yourself, those around you, and your organization by mitigating risk.</p> <p><u>AIM to Know Your Strengths</u> You will complete a series of strength based inventory assessments to learn what areas of leadership are best suited to you.</p> <p><u>AIM to Manage Conflict</u> Conflict can be a healthy thing as long as it is appropriately managed. Learn tools to manage conflict between two parties in a respectful and productive way.</p> <p><u>AIM to be Financially Responsible</u> Creating a budget is useful for you personally and for your organization. Create a personal budget and learn how to submit your student organization budget request for Spring 2024.</p>
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Figure 2. Fall 2023 AIM Schedule

Signature Learning (General Education) Curriculum

Capital University's enhanced general education program, Signature Learning, is a four-year comprehensive program encompassing both curricular and co-curricular experiences that serves as the foundation of every student's education. Capital University is committed to the liberal education that prepares the student for every arena of life. Liberal education develops intellectual skills, expands the breadth of learning through exploration of several modes of inquiry, and challenges students to examine foundational ethical and cultural assumptions. It enables students to think critically and reflectively on vocation, citizenship, service, and religious and ethical commitments.

Three student learning outcomes from the Signature Learning program show Capital University's institution-wide commitment to information literacy and truth-seeking:

SLO 2: Students articulate and apply the skills of a liberal education.

SLO 3: Students apply strategies to critically evaluate, process, and synthesize information.

SLO 11: Students identify and demonstrate the ethical and legal implications of communicating information content.

Social Justice Minor

In 2022, Capital University launched its Social Justice Minor. The program takes an interdisciplinary approach to empower students to critically analyze social justice issues. The program values community engagement, civic action, transdisciplinary knowledge, and place-based learning.

The Program Learning Outcomes in relation to civic engagement and social action are as follows:

- Students design and utilize strategies that attempt to address social justice/social responsibility issues through community engagement activities.
- Students identify how and describe how power, positionality, privilege, and other socio-structural factors impact their own life circumstances and those of people locally and globally.
- Students identify barriers to equality and/or inclusiveness and explore strategies to remove them.

Landscape

Capital University's commitment to positive civic engagement is evident from the University mission statement down through the programs that directly support this work. While departmental learning outcomes across campus have not been analyzed, a cross-university team, from many departments, disciplines, and student groups, shows the commitment spans the institution.

More than half of the First Time in College Students (FTIC) identify as male and almost 46% of FTIC students identify as students. 62.7% of FTIC students identify as white or caucasian, 13.3% as Black or African American, 9.7% as Hispanic, and 1% as International. 91.5% of our students are Ohio residents and 8.5% of students are from outside of Ohio. These statistics make it clear that the priority should be communication about Ohio voter ID laws, providing information about equal opportunity and access to the ballot, and sharing this information as a targeted push during the affinity celebration months that we celebrate.

The 2022 NSLVE information has not yet been released by Tufts University. Once this information has been released, it will be submitted to ALL IN.

The image below is the 2023 National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) comparative results in relation to students of senior status. Results are not indicated by a series of questions but rather an engagement indicator from students' first year to their senior year of their undergraduate experience. The key performance indicators of one of the Engagement and High Impact Practice themes, service learning, shows that most students are engaging with courses that encourage civic action/responsibility and/or collaboration with community members. In comparison to the NSSE results from 2022, Capital University students in their senior year in 2023 are more engaged with service-learning activities. Service-learning courses that do not have a community engaged designation often require that students conduct a certain number of civic and community engagement hours through events and projects sponsored by the Office of Student and Community Engagement. In our efforts to continue to institutionalize civic and community engagement efforts, Capital University will focus on closing the perceptual gap between campus members of diverse backgrounds to create a higher level of cultural competence in all areas of campus.

	<i>Participation Pct.</i>			<i>Sig.</i>	<i>Effect Size</i>	<i>Effect Size Interpretation</i>
	Capital University	NSSE 22-23 ³				
<i>High-Impact Practices</i>						
Service-Learning	75	59	***	.34	Medium	
Learning Community	25	23		.06	Trivial	
Research with Faculty	28	22		.13	Small	
Internship or Field Experience	71	48	***	.47	Medium	
Study Abroad	5	8		-.13	Small	
Culminating Senior Experience	45	45		-.01	Trivial	
Participated in at least one HIP	94	85	**	.31	Medium	
Participated in two or more HIPs	76	59	***	.36	Medium	

³All institutions who participated in NSSE 2022 and NSSE 2023.

Figure 4. 2023 NSSE Results for Senior Students

Our value for involvement in civic and community engagement will combine as we continue to bring community partners such as the League of Women Voters of Metro Columbus and the Franklin County Board of Elections to campus. To track levels of engagement, Capital University uses a platform called Engage to track the participation of students in all active student organizations. For all events for student organizations, as well as civic and community engagement programs facilitated by the SCE, attendance is taken. We encourage students to use the co-curricular transcript feature on Engage to make reflections for each co-curricular experience.

Short-term Goals

Goal	2024 GOAL
Increase overall voting rate	70% student participation

Participation by each athletic team through that team's choice (social media, game day announcement, etc.)	25%
Robust programming calendar including Constitution Day, National Voter Registration Day, etc.	5 events minimum

Elaboration on the Short-Term Goals:

1. Participation by each athletic teach through that team's choice
 - a. The Office of Student and Community Engagement and Capital University's Athletics Department will make all coaches aware of the purpose of the 2024 Coaches' Pledge
 - b. Student Athletes will be tasked with participating in Take the Pledge.
 - c. The Office of Student Engagement will be responsible for sending coaches on the campus-wide team, a calendar of civic engagement events to make announcements, and team activities for.
2. Enhanced collaboration of the current partners (listed below) and recruitment of additional campus departments to expand civic engagement activities and promotion.
 - a. Office of Student and Community Engagement
 - b. University Library
 - c. Athletics
3. Collaborate with at least one community partner for voter engagement per semester.
4. Robust programming calendar
 - a. 10 events (2 events being passive programs)
 - i. National Voter Registration Day
 - ii. At least 3 in-person events for National Voter Education Week
 - iii. 1 Leadership Development workshop focused on civic engagement per semester
 - iv. Constitution Day
 - v. Election Hero Day
 - vi. Election Day
 - vii. Voter Registration Tabling at Civic/Community Tabling Events once a month

Long Term Goals

One Year	Two-Three Years	Four-Five Years	Continued Efforts
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 5 signatures on behalf of Capital University for the 2024 Coaches' Pledge - Ranking within the top 15 spots for Take the Pledge - Incorporating more representatives from the Athletic Department. - Find ways to share our political engagement/voter education action plan with Student Development, students, and wider community - Create University specific civic holidays 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 10 signatures on behalf of Capital University for the 2026-2027 Coaches' Pledge - Incorporate work with our civic engagement partners into a community engaged designated course. - Ranking within the top 10 spots for Take the Pledge - Facilitate an evaluation of civic engagement initiatives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 15-20 signatures for the 2028-2029 Coaches' Pledge - Creating a course dedicated to civic engagement. - Ranking within the top 5 spots for Take the Pledge - Create a nonpartisan civic engagement student organization led by the Civic Engagement Intern 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Make information on becoming a poll worker more accessible to students. - Making attendance in class on Election Day optional - Encouraging students to become lifelong voters.
<p>Responsible Parties:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Office of Student and Community Engagement (SCE) ● Athletics 	<p>Responsible Parties:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SCE ● Athletics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SCE ● Athletics ● Faculty interested in political engagement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SCE ● Executive Team

Strategy and Reporting

As an institution, we are trying new ways to build institutional culture and infrastructure that supports civic learning, political engagement, and voter participation that will best fit our students. We understand that there is not one method to follow to accomplish our long- and short-term goals. We strive for differing political values to coexist on our campus, advocate for equitable access to voting resources, create a space for teaching and learning, and incorporate diversity, equity, inclusion, justice and belonging into civic engagement programs.

Capital University recognizes the following civic holidays:

- National Voter Registration Day
- National Voter Education Week
- Election Hero Day
- Election Day
- Constitution Day

Planned activities happen on campus to be accessible to students who do not have means for transportation. Students could also benefit from additional support from University faculty and staff to engage with these programs. Hosting

these activities on campus and sharing this calendar of events with faculty and staff help them relate these co-curricular activities to curricular material and instruction.

The institution is also committed to plan activities outside of the civic holidays that will connect students to voter education resources and teach about the voting process and fulfilling our civic duty. This includes monthly tabling events facilitated by Student and Community Engagement Interns to encourage their peers to be involved in civic and community engagement (amongst other programs that fall under other functional areas of the SCE). The Office of Student and Community Engagement is responsible for implementing each planned strategy and tactic. The Associate Director of Student and Community Engagement most directly involved with civic and community engagement, and the Civic Engagement Intern, plan the strategy, create the calendar of events, and delegate tasks to other professional and student staff to carry out these projects and programs.

There are two audiences for our strategies and tactics. First are faculty and staff. To keep faculty and staff informed, we will have to be diligent in keeping a frequent line of communication about the calendar of events, be transparent about our long term and short-term goals and allow them to have a hand in carrying out our efforts that are specifically for students. Our other audience is Capital University students. We must gauge the interest of our students, figure out the right incentives to engage students in our programming, and engage the offices that are a part of the student success network. Part of our goal of being intentional with our programming does include targeting underrepresented students. We have partnered and will continue to partner with the Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and Center for Faith and Learning and other campus partners.

A campus that is committed to educating for civic learning, political engagement, and political participation is one that is encouraged throughout all academic departments and campus offices. The way in which we would be able to report whether this commitment existed is from communication from professional staff that would be interested in participating in or sharing information about our political engagement and voter education efforts. It will take consistent work within student development to help be a catalyst for increased involvement in these efforts. The Office of Student and Community Engagement has a succession plan in which we hope to retain interns for as long as possible, and bring students into leadership roles within different functional areas to take over as interns as others graduate. These students have become strong advocates for student involvement and community engagement.

A summary of Capital University's action plan will be shared with the campus community. The summary of our action plan will contain our primary and secondary focus, partnerships, calendar of events and resources. We will work with our Director of Institutional Research to see which reports indicating levels of student engagement can be shared with the campus population. All NSSE reports are automatically shared with our President, Associate Provost/ Dean

of Engagement and Success. will have opportunities to participate throughout the academic year. The cross-university team will share updates with our Ohio Athletic Conference colleagues, and other stakeholders as appropriate, certainly at the conclusion of each semester, but throughout the initiative as well. Our voting rates will be evaluated using the NSLVE report and we will categorize events for each year, specifically around civic engagement within the classroom, in the community, with peers, etc. The cross-university team will share updates with the Capital University community, our Ohio Athletic Conference colleagues, and other stakeholders as appropriate, certainly at the beginning of the calendar year, but throughout the initiative as well. Our voting rates will be evaluated using the NSLVE report and we will categorize events for Fall 2024, specifically around civic engagement within the classroom, in the community, with peers, etc.

Capital University faculty teach various First Year Seminars (FYS). The FYS courses are for first year students and the courses vary in topic depending on the college in which they live. There are first year seminar courses in Nursing, the Conservatory of Music, Education, etc. The purpose of the first year seminar is to introduce students to the field in which they desire to study, learn to utilize campus resources, and help them develop basic skills.

Another strategic initiative for increasing student voter participation is more consistent engagement with Capital University's athletic department and our student athletes. During the 2023-2024 academic year, more coaches have signed the Coaches' Pledge, signifying their public commitment to educating our student athletes and turning them into lifelong voters. Engagement would have to be strategic, more so during sports' off season to get the most participation. We are currently recruiting athletic coaches to be a part of our cross campus team and can dedicate their time to voter education initiatives. Meeting our athletic department where they are, we are encouraging them to share their success stories in the realm of civic and community engagement that we can share with the rest of campus.

Evaluation

The purpose of evaluation is to provide the institution with a system or guidelines in efficiently promoting and seeing significant evidence of political engagement and voter participation amongst students. The institution wants to know who is voting because then we can create more targeted projects and programs, specifically for populations who do not have the tools to vote, need additional motivation to participate in election season, or we need to do more in advocating for groups of people and their access to casting their ballot. The Office of Student and Community Engagement would be responsible for implementing this evaluation. The evaluation can be carried out the following ways:

- A. Using the Capital University Voter Registration Portal

- a. The SCE would be responsible for forming an analysis on the students that are utilizing their right to vote based on the demographics reported on the backend of the voter registration portal.
 - b. This will help us be more intentional in bringing in campus offices and departments onto our cross-campus team to ensure we are effectively reaching groups of students to encourage them to become lifelong voters.
- B. Creating and distributing a survey
- a. This survey would be distributed once a semester to students to gauge how accessible civic engagement tools are, their level of knowledge about the voting process, and why they do or do not participate in election season.

For either of these methods, a rubric must be created to measure success. Some of these outcomes that will be evaluated through the indicators listed above are the following:

- A. Students will be able to articulate their civic identity or political affiliation
- B. Students will be able to demonstrate a willingness to be involved in civic engagement efforts
- C. Students will be able to show an understanding of various political ideologies and the importance of their coexistence on campus

Through the Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching, we can create an assessment for professional staff members and their level of knowledge of Capital University's civic engagement efforts. This would be the appropriate space to also gauge how often they discuss voting in the classroom.

Closing

Capital University is excited to build on its rich history of voter engagement through the 2024 All In Challenge. We are passionate about learning as an institution about how we can best prepare our students to fulfill their civic duty and become lifelong voters. In a time where so many laws and policies are being introduced to society which heavily impact higher education, and more specifically, voting access for college students, we want our students to be involved in the decision-making on their learning. Capital University is steadily making plans to institutionalize commitment to civic action, political engagement, and increasing student voter participation. As we continue to strategize and evaluate the methodology for completing our goals, our initiatives and learning outcomes are evolving and hope that this will become a staple of the student experience.