

# Denison Voter Engagement Initiative 2020 Action Plan

## Our Team

- CEEP Fellow: Jacob Rains
- CLIC Voting Fellow: Tait Ferguson and Ramsey Bristol
- Associate Director Alford CLIC: Susie Kalinoski
- Alford CLIC Program Coordinator: Katie McKenney
- Director Alford CLIC: Matthew Vetter
- Denison Business Services: Amy Hannahs
- Community Coordinator for Civic Engagement:
- Denison Faculty Representative: TBD
- Denison Athletics Representative: TBD
- Denison Library Representative: TBD
- Denison Residential Communities Representative: TBD
- League of Women Voters: TBD
- Various Student Leaders

## Our Mission

Through passionate and consistent efforts, we will spread information on campus that showcases how voting can lead to a more connected and well-informed society. Our aim for the 2020 presidential election is to increase voter registration, education, and participation among Denison students, staff, and the community.

## Our Vision

As a small campus, we want to ensure a highly visible and active “voter committee” that connects campus resources and empowers students to access their right to vote and be civically engaged

## 2020 Action Plan

For the 2020 election cycle, we utilized NSLVE data from the 2016 election cycle as the baseline for setting our goals. The goals are:

- To increase our Voting Rate by 10 points, from 42.7% to 52.7%.
- To increase our Registration Rate by 5 points, from 85.4% to 90.4%.
- To increase our Rate of Registered Students who Voted by 10 points, from 50.4% to 60.4%

## Voter Registration

### Registration of First-Year Students

- In partnership with our August Orientation Program, a formalized process will be added to the orientation experience where students will have the opportunity to register to vote and sign up to receive election related reminders from DU Votes.
- DU Votes plans to collect information from students on whether they plan to vote in Ohio or another state in order to better target our Get Out The Vote efforts later in the semester.
- Copies of Denison's Student Voting Guide will be made available to all First-Year Students during August Orientation.
- DU Votes volunteers will conduct a dorm storm during the first week of the academic year to follow-up with students who need assistance completing voter registration and absentee ballot request forms.
- Registration and Absentee Voting Information flyers specific to First-Year Students will be put up in all First-Year Residence Halls.

#### Registration and Re-Registration of Returning Students

- All students who are registered to vote using a campus address are required to update their voter registration each school year due to their change in campus address. In collaboration with Residential Communities and Student Housing Operations and Planning we plan to provide students with registration forms during Upperclass Student Move-In.
- DU Votes volunteers will conduct several dorm storms during September to follow-up with students who need assistance completing voter registration and absentee ballot request forms.
- Registration and Absentee Voting Information flyers will be put up in Upperclass Residence Halls.

#### **Voter Education and Engagement**

- Information Table - DU Votes will set up a voter engagement table in our student union (Slayter) 24/7. A volunteer will be present at the table weekly to help students register, leading up to the voter- registration deadline of October 5. After the registration deadline ends, there will be candidate and ballot information available for students at all times at the table.
- Debate Watch Parties - DU Votes plans to host debate watch parties for the three Presidential debates and the Vice Presidential debate.
- Candidate Forum - In partnership with political organizations on campus and the League of Women Voters DU Votes will invite candidates for local, state, and federal office for a candidate forum.
- National Voter Registration Day and Constitution Day - DU Votes plans to hold special voter registration and engagement events in partnership with other campus offices and student organizations on these dates.

- Bulletin Boards - DU Votes plans to create bulletin boards that have voter registration forms, voter guides, sample ballots, and issue guides that will be showcased in different offices and student-heavy locations around the university.
- MyDenison - DU Votes plans to collaborate with ITS and University Communications to create a voting information page that provides timely information and relevant resources for students.

## **Get Out The Vote (GOTV)**

### **Early Voting/Absentee Voting**

- Early Voting Shuttles - DU Votes in partnership with CLIC will provide shuttles to the Licking County Board of Elections throughout early voting.
- Halloween Trick or Vote in the Residence Halls (Dorm Storm) - DU Votes will go door to door encouraging early voting and hand out voter information on October 29.
- Absentee Voting Reminders - DU Votes will table and send reminders to students planning on voting absentee to ensure they return their ballots prior to election day. DU Votes will assist students in filling out Absentee Ballot Requests as needed.

### **Election Day**

- Election Day Shuttles - DU Votes in partnership with CLIC will provide shuttles to the polling place in Granville on Election Day.
- Election Day Rally - In partnership with CLIC, all interested campus organizations and offices DU Votes will hold an election day rally to excite students about voting and distribute voting information.

**Days to Register First-Year Students:** 43 days

**Days to Register Upperclass Students:** 40 days

### Tentative Calendar of Events

August 23 – First-Year Voter Registration Effort Begins

August 26 – Upperclass Student Voter Registration forms distributed during Upperclass Move In

September 9 – [OFFICIAL EMAIL] About Voter Registration, Events, and Resources

September 29 – Presidential Debate Viewing #1 (Slayter Auditorium, 9-10:30 pm)

October 7 – Vice Presidential Debate Viewing (Slayter Auditorium, 9-10:30 pm)

October 15 – Presidential Debate Viewing #2 (Slayter Auditorium, 9-10:30 pm)

October 22 – Presidential Debate Viewing #3 (Slayter Auditorium, 9-10:30 pm)

### **Application Deadlines**

December 15, 2019 - All In Campus Democracy Challenge

January 30, 2020 - Voter Friendly Campus Designation

### **Ohio 2020 Tentative Elections Calendar**

<b>January 1</b>	Applications for absentee ballots for all 2020 elections may be accepted.
<b>February 18</b>	<b>Deadline for voter registration for the March 17, 2020 presidential primary election (30 days before presidential primary election)</b>
<b>February 19</b>	EARLY VOTING BEGINS: February 19 – March 6 8:00 am – 5:00 pm (Monday – Friday) March 9 – March 13 8:00 am – 7:00 pm (Monday – Friday) March 14 8:00 am – 4:00 pm (Saturday) March 15 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm (Sunday) March 16 8:00 am – 2:00 pm (Monday)
<b>March 14</b>	Applications for absentee ballots to be mailed for the March 17, 2020 presidential primary election must be received by boards of elections by noon (3 days before presidential primary election)
<b>March 17</b>	<b>PRIMARY ELECTION DAY - Polls Open 6:30 am – 7:30 pm.</b>
<b>March 17</b>	Absentee ballots, returned in person or via a method other than U.S. Mail must be received by the boards of elections by close of polls (7:30 pm).
<b>October 5</b>	<b>Deadline for voter registration for the Nov. 3, 2020 general election (30 days before general election)</b>
<b>October 6</b>	EARLY VOTING BEGINS: Oct. 6-9 and Oct. 12-16: 8 am to 5 pm Oct. 19-23: 8 am to 6 pm Oct. 24: 8 am to 4 pm Oct. 25: 1 pm to 5 pm Oct. 26-30: 8 am to 7 pm Oct. 31: 8 am to 4 pm Nov. 1: 1 pm to 5 pm Nov 2: 8 am to 2 pm
<b>November 2</b>	Absentee ballots returned by U.S. Mail must be postmarked no later than this date.
<b>November 3</b>	<b>General Election Day. Polls open from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.</b>
<b>November 3</b>	Absentee ballots, returned in person or via a method other than U.S. Mail, must be received by the boards of elections by close of polls
<b>November 13</b>	Absentee ballots returned by U.S. Mail must be postmarked no later than Nov. 2 and received by boards of elections by this date to be counted (10 days after general election)
<b>November 13</b>	UOCAVA absentee ballots must be received by boards of elections by this date to be counted (10 days after general election)