



Grand View University 2020 Democratic Engagement Action Plan
Developed by: Heidi Pries

Executive Summary:

The Office of Student Involvement, along with a small committee of Grand View students and the Office of our President will be working to increase student engagement in voting on our campus. We have tabled on campus to get more students registered to vote as well as request voter absentee ballots. Student staff on the committee have approached university administration to be a satellite polling site. Students have collected the requests for absentee ballots and voting registrations and turned them in to ensure they would get processed. Students will be able to drop off their completed ballots on campus in our Student Life Office and volunteers will drive them to the auditor's office. Also, there will be communication sent out the entire month of October reminding students to vote. We will be focusing on our residential student population and our student athletes. We are doing a challenge between our athletic teams to get them to vote and to commit to voting.

Leadership:

Our leadership team includes the following:

Heidi Pries, Director of Student Involvement
Rob Barron, Office of the President
Colby Williams, Student
Sam Vannatta, student

Commitment:

Our campus has signed the Higher Education Presidents' Commitment to Full Student Voter Participation.

Our campus has used the following methods to communicate with students about the election:

By email, By posting on institutional social media channels

Landscape:

Our campus demographic and voting data:

49.4% of our students voted in 2018 We have approximately 1600 full time students, nearly 800 that live on campus and 600 athletes. Twenty-three percent of our students are minority students.

Goals:

Our campus democratic engagement goals are:

Our short term goals are to increase the percent of students that vote, we would like to see the 2020 be closer to 2016 which was 70%. We will do this by getting more students registered to vote. Long term we would develop a plan to get students registered early in their first year at GV. Perhaps coordinating with orientation.

Strategy:

Our campus has used the following strategies and organized the following events:

In-person voter registration drives, Virtual voter registration drives (e.g. Couch Party text banking events), Pledge to Vote drive

Focusing on athletes and our residential students as we feel we can have the biggest impact on those students as they are more engaged on our campus.

NSLVE:

Grand View University has authorized NSLVE.

Evaluation:

We will evaluate our action plan in the following ways:

We will compare our percent registered to vote with our percent that actually voted. We will compare the 2016 numbers with 2020 as they are both presidential years. However, we will work to improve voting during midterm elections as well.

Reporting:

We will report our campus action plan and NSLVE reports in the following ways:

Our campus hasn't confirmed a plan to post the action plan on our campus website.

Our campus hasn't confirmed a plan to post our NSLVE reports on our campus website.