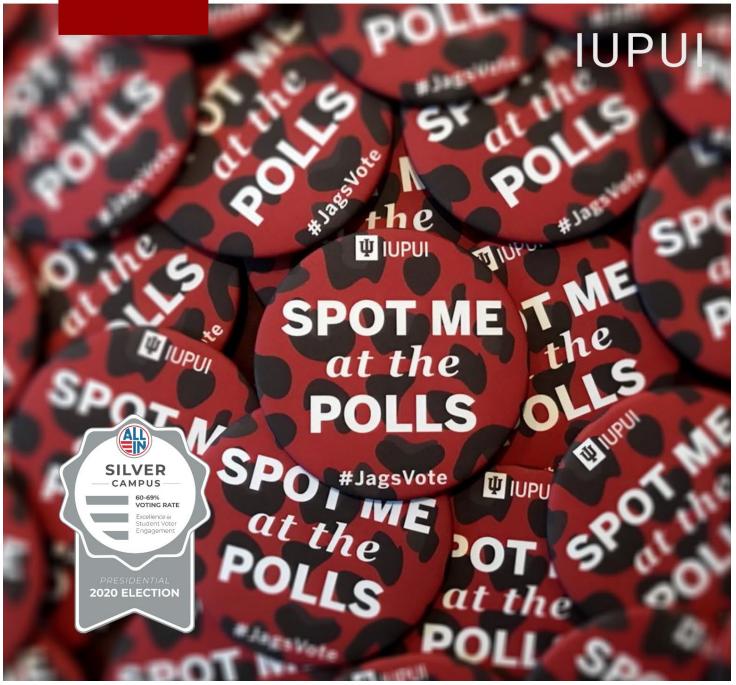


# ALL IN DEMOCRACY CHALLENGE



# **Executive Summary**



In the heart of Indianapolis, IUPUI serves as a premier urban public research university with a mission of advancing the state of Indiana and the growth of its citizens through research and creative activity, teaching and learning, and civic engagement. Our university is committed to focusing on providing accessible democratic, political, and civic engagement for our population to bridge the gap between our university, the local community, and the national conversation.

The ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge action plan was initiated by a team of undergraduate and graduate students and professional staff within the Division of Student Affairs. Our team is Brian Starkel, Associate Director, and our Civic Engagement Assistants, Emily Veenstra, Emily Snooks, Rachael Peterson, Lelani Gentry, Taylor Burns, and Yvonne Carmelo. Our submission was supported by our Political Engagement Group spearheaded by our Assistant Vice Chancellor for Community Engagement, Jennifer Boehm.

In 2020, IUPUI students had a voter registration rate of 85.9% and a voting rate of 68.1%. The voting rate was an 11.6% increase from 2016. This action plan was developed because we want to continue our upward trend of our students' increasing levels of democratic participation.

For this report, we have selected four central goals that include:

- An increase of first-year students voting rates at IUPUI by the end of 2022 by 5% by connecting with them during bridge week, first year seminars, and other new student events.
- An increase of democratic engagement for minority students by 5% by the end of 2022 by working with student organizations.
- Development of a strong student outreach campaigns and network through organizations, newsletters, social media, digital campaigns, and events.
- An increase in different voting method usage as seen in the 2020 election by spreading awareness of early voting and absentee voting through our voter education programs

Our action plan starts at the beginning of the 2022 fall semester and ends in the 2023 spring semester. The timeframe was selected to have an election cycle as a part of our plan inclusive of the 2022 midterm election. Our plan will be short-term as our campus is participating in the Institute for Democracy and Higher Education Research-to-Practice Initiative (IDHE) which was assessed in 2019. With the pandemic, the IDHE recommendation were just starting to be implemented and will continue through 2023. This action plan serves as a catalyst for initiatives and will be instrumental as being a starting point for the final report.

The plan will be implemented by a team of students, faculty, staff, and stakeholders that are both connected and not connected with the Political Engagement Group through programs, voter registration initiatives, dialogues around local and global issues, panels, and classroom presentations on the IUPUI campus and within the surrounding communities. Professional staff from the Office of Student and Family Connections will collect, document, and assess experiences that will allow us to fulfill our goals.

# Leadership

Our political engagement committee is a cohort of faculty, staff, students, and community partners that work together to inform, program, and research civic and democratic engagement on campus and within the state of Indiana.

Organized through the Office of Community Engagement from the Assistant Vice Chancellor, Jennifer Boehm, the committee reports our findings directly to the Chancellor's Cabinet and the Advisory Board. The **advisory board** consists of members of the Chancellor's Cabinet and a key representative from the Division of Undergraduate Learning.

Name	Title	Office		
Kathy Johnson	Executive Vice Chancellor	Office of Academic Affairs		
Kristy Sheeler	Interim Associate Vice Chancellor for Undergraduate Education, Interim Dean of University College	Division of Undergraduate Education		
Eric Weldy	Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs	Division of Student Affairs		
Amy Warner	Vice Chancellor for Community Engagement	Office of Community Engagement		
Karen Dace	Vice Chancellor for Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion	Division of Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion		

Our current members of the Political Engagement Group include representatives from the Division of Student Affairs, Institute of Engaged Learning, the Multicultural Center, the Paul H. O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs, the School of Science, the School of Liberal Arts, and the IU School of Medicine. Our student representatives include our Civic Engagement Assistants (CEAs) under the Division of Student Affairs and members of our Undergraduate Student Government and Graduate & Professional Student Government.

Name	Title	Office		
Jennifer Boehm	Assistant Vice Chancellor	Office of Community Engagement		
Brian Starkel	Associate Director	Student and Family Connections, Division of Student Affairs		
Emily Veenstra	Civic Engagement Assistant Manager	Student and Family Connections, Division of Student Affairs		
Kathleen Marrs	Associate Professor	School of Science		
Dan Griffith	Director, Conflict Resolution and Dialogue Programs	Office of Conflict Resolution and Dialogue Programs, Division of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion		
Niki Messmore	Program Director of Community and Civic Engagement	School of Medicine		
Danielle McMillan	Assistant Director	Multicultural Center, Division of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion		
Precious Majors	Assistant Director	Multicultural Center, Division of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion		
Lorrie Brown	Director of Student and Staff Engagement	Institute for Engaged Learning		
Erin Kelley	Event Services Specialist for Spirit and Place	School of Liberal Arts		
Angela DeCamp	Recruitment and Outreach Coordinator	Paul H. O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs		
Kartikay Gulia	President	Undergraduate Student Government		
Colin Pellegrom	President	Graduate and Professional Student Government		

The city of Indianapolis, national initiatives, and the surrounding community play a critical role in increasing our efforts and developing knowledgeable students to engage with community organizations, advocacy groups, and non-profit organizations.

These annual community partnerships include the following:



## **Marion County Board of Elections:**

The election board oversees federal, state, county, city, and school district elections in Marion County. They serve as a critical partnership by providing experiential learning opportunities to our campus and provide us with all the essential information for upcoming elections.



## League of Women Voters-Indianapolis:

The League works towards empowering citizens to shape better communities. Our partner plays a key role in assisting in training our student leaders in proper voter registration. This training is conducted each election cycle.



### **ACLU Indiana:**

The ACLU of Indiana serves the community in fighting for civil liberties in the frontiers of student rights, LGBTQ rights, voter rights, criminal justice reform and more. The partnership allows us to strengthen our relationship with students on critical topics and provides them updated information on how policies impact daily life.



## **Indiana Disability Rights:**

Indiana Disability Rights is the service arm of the Indiana Protection and Advocacy Services (IPAS) Commission. They are responsible for ensuring legal and advocacy services for the promotion, protection, and empowerment of rights and interests of individuals with disabilities throughout Indiana. IUPUI is an inclusive campus for students of all abilities and this partnership provides an essential way for resources to be distributed and accurate information to find a home on campus.



## **Voter Friendly Campus:**

Voter Friendly Campus has been a foundational member of our civic engagement initiatives at IUPUI. Through their educational programming, action planning, and reports, we have been able to continuously advocate for voter resources, greater access, and stronger messaging throughout the campus leadership team. The action planning allows us to provide a thoughtful report to our campus constituents.



## Campus Takeover:

This national organization is an ongoing and expanding partnership with promoting the major civic holidays on campus. Historically, IUPUI has been an active participant in the National Voter Registration Day. In our 2020 election cycle, we were able to add National Voter Education Week and Vote Early Day into our evergreen programming. During the 2022 election cycle, we are looking forward to adding the 'Election Hero Day' to have all four programs on our campus.



### **Ask Every Student:**

The newer program has allowed us to work towards full voter registration and institutionalizing democratic engagement throughout campus, both digitally and through direct participation. In 2022, IUPUI was selected to serve as just one of twenty co-designer campuses. Through the framework, we have been able to centralize messaging and invest in Ask Every Student Canvas Module and other digital resources.

### Commitment

The institutional leadership demonstrates a strong commitment to civic learning and democratic engagement through our mission statement, vision, and strategic plan.

The mission of IUPUI places a central focus to 'advance the state of Indiana and the intellectual growth of its citizens to the highest levels nationally and internationally through research and creative activity, teaching and learning, and civic engagement.'

The vision has a focus 'To be a leading urban research institution recognized for the success of its students, its advances in health and life sciences, and its intellectual, economic, and cultural contributions to the well-being of the citizens of Indianapolis, the state of Indiana, and beyond'.

Our strategic plan for the university, Our Commitment to Indiana and Beyond: IUPUI Strategic Plan, plays an essential role in shaping our priorities for the future. Within the document, it outlines clearly in Priority 3 a focus on contributions to the well-being of the citizens of Indianapolis, the State of Indiana, and beyond. Within the priority, it outlines a goal to deepen the campus commitment to community engagement, which focuses on increasing service and experiential learning opportunities, stimulating economic development, and using outreach and engagement to address urban community needs.

This commitment is supported by IUPUI's Community Engagement Classification provided by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. We are amongst the first cohort of campuses to receive this designation. Additionally, through diligent work, the campus was awarded the Engaged Campus of the Year in 2018 from the Indiana Campus Compact for exemplary commitment to improving the community and educating students for civic and social responsibility.

Our campus manifests this commitment with offices, departments, and institutes that engage within the community, the curricular, and co-curricular. These include the Office of Community Engagement, the Division of Undergraduate Learning, the Institute for Engaged Learning, the Division of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, and the Division of Student Affairs.

Through our commitment to our current democratic engagement, we received the Bronze Seal in 2016, the Silver Seal in 2018, and the Silver Seal again in 2020 from the ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge. We received a designation of a Voter Friendly Campus in 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 and landed in the top Best Colleges for Student Voting by Washington Monthly for the past several years.

# Landscape

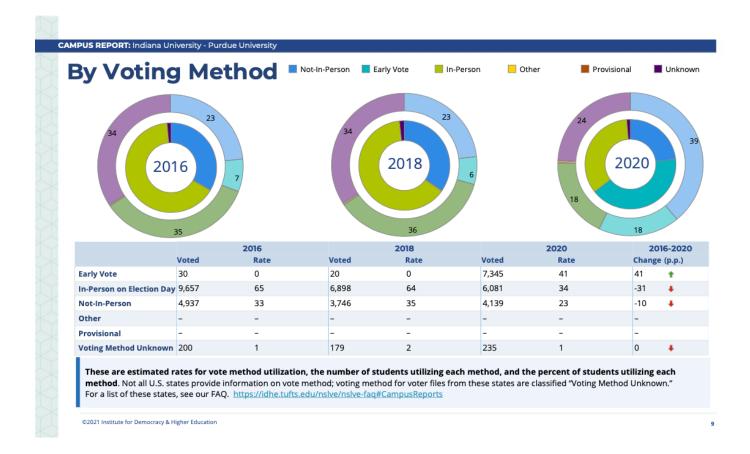
The commitment to civic learning and democratic engagement is evidenced through the work of the Office of Academic Affairs, which developed the Profiles of Learning for Undergraduate Success (IUPUI+), and within the tools and instruments available to faculty and staff members through the Center for Service and Learning, which include the civic-minded graduate, civic-minded professional, and the Students, Organizations, Faculty, Administrators, and Residents (SOFAR) model, a conceptual framework for organizing community-campus partnerships.

This year, the National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement (NSLVE) provided IUPUI with exciting results from our most recent election cycle in 2020.

Most noteworthy was a 11.6% increase in the voting rate from 2016 to 68.1%. These promising numbers were validating of our hard work and motivating to continue to raise the bar. Our registration rate was at 85.9% but we had a 68.1% voting rate. This statistic made us reflect on how we can close the gap to make students feel more comfortable about voting. We hope that with the addition of a polling place within our University Library that students feel more comfortable voting right on campus.



One surprising statistic was the number of students who utilized early voting methods in 2020 with a 41% increase from years prior. With that, we see an opportunity to increase education on Early Voting and why it can be important to students. We recognize that with the pandemic many students may look to avoid crowds or better fit voting into their schedule. We see this increase from last year as an opportunity to spread awareness of early voting and hopefully get more students to the polls.



We also noticed that, while our age group of 18-21 makes up over 45% of our registered voters, they have the lowest voting rate of 65%. However, that group had the greatest increase in voters since 2016, an overall increase of 15%. We see this as continued opportunity to increase our presence at new student orientation and conduct outreach in first-year seminar classes because many of these students may be first-time voters.



Looking back at our past action plans, we can reflect on the changes we have made thus far. In 2020, we found value in the breakdown of the field of study within the report, specifically those who were below the 35% voting rate. These fields included business, management, and marketing, engineering and technologies, biological and biomedical sciences, law enforcement, parks, recreation, leisure, and fitness students, physical sciences, and psychology. Through targeting these students, we were able to raise voting rates so that no school has a voting rate of less than 60%.

During this election cycle, we are looking at those whose 2020 voting rates were 65% or less. These fields of study included business, management, and marketing, computer and information sciences, law enforcement, firefighting, and protection, mathematics and statistics, parks, recreation, leisure, and fitness studies, physical sciences, and psychology. We plan to target these schools and increase their voter participation in the 2022 election.

Civic engagement is embedded in multiple offices, faculty, and courses throughout IUPUI. Based on past reports, faculty have cited over 500 different community partners and have over 600 course sections for community-based learning courses with over 8,000 students participating.

The Office of Community Engagement exists to support, promote, and recognize campus engagement within the community and to develop a strategic approach to community engagement at IUPUI. They have two focus areas that include professional development and corporate education, and family, school, and neighborhood engagement.

The Institute for Engaged Learning promotes and supports the equitable progression of undergraduates through pathways of connected and scaffolded curricular and co-curricular, applied, integrative, and experiential learning opportunities that prepare students for lives of commitment and success with skills to communicate, innovate, and engage in local and global communities to address 21st century problems. The Institute includes first-year experience programs, Center for Service and Learning, Center for Research and Learning, Gateway Learning Academy, ePortfolio Initiative, and RISE. The institute also includes the Engaged Learning Showcase, a program which highlights engaged learning on campus, in both curricular and co-curricular activities.

Highlighted within the portfolio from the Institute for Engaged Learning is the Center for Service and Learning. The Center for Service and Learning bridges that gap between academic affairs, the community, and course-work that focuses on civic/service engagement. This office plays a central role in assisting faculty in curriculum development of service-learning courses, research and evaluation, and developing strong partnerships with community members and organizations. The office has developed several tools and taxonomies including the Civic-Minded Graduate, Civic-Minded Professional, SOFAR Framework (Student, Community, Organizational Staff, Faculty, Campus Administrators/Staff & Community Residents) and the IUPUI Taxonomy for Service-Learning Courses. They house the Civic Engagement Poster Showcase, an annual program that comes together 'to honor and to recognize IUPUI's diverse community engagement activities'. Throughout the university, within academic units, courses are available for a variety of majors that value the themes of civic engagement.

On the co-curriculum side of our campus, the mission of the Division of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion is to educate, advocate, engage and empower the IUPUI community by cultivating partnerships and resources to create and sustain an environment that is inclusive, equitable, and diverse. Within the division includes the Multicultural Center, LGBTQ+ Center, Office of Intercultural Literacy, Capacity, and Engagement. Annual programming includes affinity group programs, a cultural movie series, and a How to College series.

Key student initiatives include multiple multicultural student organizations and the Social Justice Scholars whose mission is to provide students with awareness, knowledge, and skills to develop their leadership identity through a social justice framework in order to empower students. A series of dialogues and programs are produced monthly that include Democracy Plaza, Pass the Mic, Speak OUT Café, Real Talk, and Hash It Out.

A part of the annual work includes Tunnel of Oppression, an interactive production in partnership with Housing & Residence Life to highlight contemporary social justice issues and to introduce participants to essential concepts of oppression. In the spring, a Social Justice Symposium is hosted as a low-cost day-long conference focusing on workshops, speakers, and dialogues.

The Office of Student and Family Connections houses programs such as Alternative Breaks, the undergraduate and the graduate and professional student government, campus funding grants, and the Civic Engagement Assistants, that develop programs based solely on civic learning and engagement including initiating the All-In Democracy Challenge, Voter Friendly Campus, and hosting monthly programs.

The Polis Center on campus addresses issues and concerns in the community based on research-based data. The center's key programs include the Grand Challenge Initiative, Indiana Data Partnership, The SAVI Community Information System, Religion and Urban Culture 1.0, and lastly, The Digital Encyclopedia of Indianapolis.

Our Alternative Break Scholars plan and implement fall break trips and spring break trips to a variety of cities with a focus on a variety of topical issues that have included immigration, mental health, veteran affairs, the LGBTQ+ community, environmentalism, and more. All these opportunities provide our students with exposure to topics to push them beyond their comfort zone and build a pathway for engagement.

Our Civic Engagement Assistants have developed monthly programming on campus and assist in facilitating voter registration. In the past year, we were able to register students to vote through registration activities held during orientation and Weeks of Welcome in addition to tabling events throughout campus. Through our robust tabling experiences, we learned that these activities served as a clearinghouse for all questions around the election and non-civic engagement. We plan to continue our efforts to answer questions for students about voting and elections.

Our voter education provided an opportunity to focus on voting, voter ID laws, and absentee voter information through a variety of presentations that include Understanding Government, Indianapolis Unigov, IndyGo, Civic Discourse, Advocacy 101, How to Vote, and Voter Rights.

Our signature ballot education activity was the Elections 101 event held in April. We bring in past elected officials and have them speak on behalf of how elections work. One of the key barriers to any election is accessibility and we made sure to partner with the Marion County Board of Elections,

ACLU of Indiana, League of Women Voters, Women for Change, and Indiana Disability Rights organization to have them be a key community partner during our monthly programs. Our signature democratic engagement focusing on early voting is a March to the Polls, co-sponsored annually with the Multicultural Center. We have a rally and travel a short distance to downtown Indianapolis to perform our civic duties.

In terms of voter mobilization, we send monthly newsletters that touch a variety of campus partners and departments, hold campus-wide voter rallies such as March to the Polls and National Voter Registration Day. Through our social media platforms, @IUPUICCSE, @IUPUI, and @IUPUIJAGSVOTE we were able to conduct educational and get-out-the-vote events over a dozen times. On Election Day, we plan to host an Election HQ and have computers to allow students to look up their registration to see where in the city they can vote.

IUPUI has a supportive community that is conducive for civic engagement work to take place but can be siloed at times where communication to large groups of campus is hindered. Our campus is blessed to be in the heart of the city where community partners and the Indiana State House are accessible for all our students. Polling locations around campus are less than five minutes away with a total of 181 within Indianapolis. For the first time, our University Library, located in the heart of campus, served as a polling location for the Indiana primary and served 267 voters. We are excited to promote this opportunity in the fall for the general election.

Six additional students and staff were trained in voter registration to expand the capacity to host tables across the campus. On March 24, four voter registration tables were set up across the campus - one in our Science and Engineering building, one in University Library, one in the Herron School of Art & Design and one in the campus center. This is part of our effort to reach more students who don't typically leave their buildings during the day.

Funding secured from a campus initiative, Rebuilding Community, supported the Elections 101 event as well as a roundtable lunch discussion with the Hoosier Environmental Council about environmental policy and advocacy. The luncheon was well attended, and we hope to continue this series in the fall including a luncheon with an IUPUI alumnae who works for Movimiento Cosecha, an immigrant-lead movement that fights for the respect, dignity, and permanent protection for all 11+million undocumented immigrants.

Some of the internal barriers to our campus is that most of our students are commuters. They come from not just Indianapolis but surrounding counties and based on our absentee rate of 23%, a large chunk of campus is from out of the Central Indiana area.

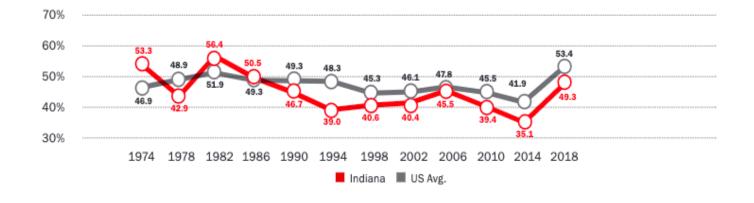
The external barriers have been reduced in the past year with the allowance of IU School IDs to be used for official identification and in 2020, Indiana expanded early voting sites. But there are still ways that the State of Indiana can continue to support voters. Currently, our state does not offer same day voter registration and voters must be registered 29 days ahead of time. Also, on election day, our polls are only open from 6 am to 6 pm. Lastly, Indiana has strict laws on absentee voting.

# State of Indiana-Voting Data and Patterns

The efforts of IUPUI's voter education are additionally based behind the biannual Indiana Civic Health Index report. This report, produced by the Indiana Bar Foundation, provides us with guidelines of where the state stands when it comes to civic involvement and voter participation.

In the 2021 report, one of the most surprising points of data was the *Indiana Voter Turnout During Midterm Election Years*. Since 1990, Indiana has fallen below the U.S average voter turnout rate. While the state follows similar trends to the U.S statistics, Indiana falls behind every year.

Chart 1. Indiana Voter Turnout During Midterm Election Years 1974 - 2018



Indiana has seen an increase in the voting rate since the 2016 presidential election from 58.3% to 60.6% in 2020. However, even with the increase in voter turnout, Indiana's state ranking went down from 41st to 45th in 2020.

Chart 2. Voting and Registration in Presidential Election Years in Indiana

### PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION YEARS

	2012		2016		2020	
	Rank	Rate	Rank	Rate	Rank	Rate
VOTER REGISTRATION	37th	71.3%	40th	68.8%	39th	69.3%
VOTING	38th	59.3%	41st	58.3%	46th	60.6%

When it comes to midterm elections, Indiana has reported lower voter turnout. From 2014 to 2018, however, Indiana had a midterm turnout rate increase of 14.2%, changing the states midterm voter turnout ranking from 47th to 43rd.

When establishing our goals for this upcoming year, we consider the overall data of Indiana. This assists us in setting goals that will not only impact our data as a school, but as a state.

### Goals



The IUPUI campus strategy focuses on three priorities, each of them crucial to the success of our institution, our city, and our state: (1) the success of our students; (2) advances in health and life sciences; and (3) contributions to the well-being of the citizens of Indianapolis, the state of Indiana, and beyond.

One of the ways for our students to be civic-minded graduates is through the IUPUI's PLUS+ (Profiles of Learning for Undergraduate Success) initiative. This learning outcome model was developed as an opportunity to prepare all students to communicate, innovate, and to engage local and global communities to solve the problems of the 21st century. One of the four profiles is Community Contributor. It focuses on ensuring that students are active and valued on and off campus through responsible, civically engaged action.

Within this priority in the strategic plan is a goal of deepening our commitment to community engagement by increasing service and experiential learning opportunities, stimulate economic development, and use outreach and engagement to address urban community needs.

The goal is broken down into three objectives that include 1) developing a comprehensive strategy that applies the campus's place-based economic power and human capital in partnership with the community to benefit the long-term well-being of both, 2) leading campus engagement initiatives that further involve students, faculty, and staff in the community, and 3) advancing the campus reputation for engagement locally, nationally, and internationally.

In our last ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge report, we contributed to our campus strategic plan by setting four goals that would change the campus community for the better. These goals centered on being a champion for voter registration, education, and turnout, These goals included 1) an increase of first-year students registering to vote at IUPUI by the end of 2020 by 5%, 2) an increase of engagement and participation of minority students by 10% by the end of 2020 by creating more inclusive programming, 3) develop a strong student outreach campaign and network through newsletters, social media, and digital campaigns and 4) a focus on different types of voting by hosting a dedicated event in 2020 to highlight different ways to vote.

Based on past demographic information that measures participation in campus and voter activities, we have identified four goals to continue to increase the importance of political awareness on a college campus. These goals are, 1) an increase of first-year students voting at IUPUI by the end of 2022 by 5% by contacting them during bridge week, first year seminars, and other events, 2) an increase of democratic engagement for minority students by 5% by the end of 2022 by working with student organizations, 3) development of strong student outreach through organizations, newsletters, social media, digital campaigns, and events, and 4) an increase in different voting method usage as seen in the 2020 election by spreading awareness of early voting and absentee voting through our voter education programs

As we move forward with these goals, we hope to increase our voter participation in the 2022 Midterm Elections.

# **Strategy**

Successful accomplishment of our four goals require implementation from multiple stakeholders, campus organizations, departments, and schools to craft a landscape of civic engagement. Our campus is deeply committed to educating for civic learning, political engagement, and voter participation. Through our mission, vision, and programs, we have a wealth of programming with major contributors that include the Division of Student Affairs, Division of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, the Office of Service-Learning, the Office of Student and Family Connections, and the Paul H. O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs.

A large part of our strategy will be to categorize and communicate what is being offered on and off campus. The activities, programs, and initiatives that are listed are planned and have a responsible party. As the Political Engagement Group meets throughout the year, there will be more opportunities for our students, faculty, and staff to engage.

The activities for the upcoming year can be broken down into three unique categories of voter registration, voter and social issue education, and voter and civic participation. Our voter registration activities are meant to provide basic information on how to register to vote, options for voting, and provide information on upcoming events. Throughout the past few years, we have focused on registration at high-traffic, large-scale events such as New Student Bridge Week, Weeks of Welcome, and athletic events. Outside of these high-profile programs, we table 2-3 times per month prior to the registration deadline and participate in National Voter Registration Day.

Education on social issues, public policy, and global literacy are a consistent presence at IUPUI and we've selected to highlight activities that have been a tradition part of our campus community and activities that we believe will assist us in full-filling our short-term goals of reaching more first-year students and minority groups. Those activities that focus on examining social issues through a social justice lens include monthly dialogues from our Social Justice Scholars and the Chancellor's Diversity Speaker Series.

Programs that include civic participation include the March to the Polls program that happens each fall that highlights early voting. The Paul H. O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs features several programs that inspire civic participation that include the Public Service Speaker Series, the Bulen Symposium, and the Non-Profit Expo.

Through our goals, we hope to strengthen the accessibility to our diverse population by partnering with more specific multicultural organizations for events beyond traditional schools and divisions. We hope to organize voter registration events where all multicultural organizations can be involved and share the data that we have received from the NSVLE report. These partners include organizations such as the Multicultural Center, Asian Student Association, Latino Student Association, the Black Student Union, and many more.

One of the key demographic groups identified in our goals is our first-year student population. We have plenty of presentations that are provided by our Civic Engagement Assistants, and we hope to provide a new "Voter Education for First Time Voters" presentation. Currently, we provide a Voter Information Guide to all first-year seminar instructors. This practice has been conducted the past four semesters and we hope to increase our communication of this tool for faculty and staff to utilize in their classrooms.

Through our goals we hope to educate students more on the different types of voting methods. We take inspiration from the large Early Voter turnout in the 2020 election, and we hope to keep those numbers high. This year, our Civic Engagement Assistants will be conducting one of our key programs, our "March to the Polls" program to promote early voting. Additionally, through marketing, newsletters, social media, and digital campaigns we will be spreading the word on the various ways to vote.

One of our key strategies of success will be working with the Political Engagement Group on the completion of the IDHE Research-To-Practice initiative. The report will allow us to properly assess the culture of IUPUI and take further steps towards institution commitment. Through the final report, we hope to utilize the taskforce feature to allow us to program towards individual schools based on the voter engagement statistics from the NSLVE report. With a culture of innovation and creativity at IUPUI, there are outstanding activities that are happening on campus that may not be on this report, and we hope to continue to call on our coalition to assist in bringing others to the table. By analyzing annual work that is happening on campus, we hope to present the campus with a singular message of civic engagement programs, resources, and initiatives.

### **Tentative Calendar of Events 2022**



08/15-19/2022 Bridge Week

08/22-26/2022 Week of Welcome

08/25/2022 Voter Registration Tabling

08/29/2022 Voter Registration Tabling

09/08/2022 Voter Registration Tabling

09/12/2022 Voter Registration Tabling

09/15/2022 Day of Democracy

09/20/2022 National Voter Education Day

09/22/2022 Voter Registration Tabling

09/26/2022 Voter Registration Tabling

10/06/2022 Voter Registration Tabling

10/10/2022 Voter Registration Tabling

10/28/2022 March to the Polls

October Voter Education Tabling

10/03-07/2022 Voter Education Week

11/07/2022 Election Day Hero

11/08/2022 Elections HQ

# Reporting

Throughout the last several election cycles, reporting outcomes and statistics surrounding our civic engagement activities have been an essential part of the culture at IUPUI. There are three ways that information is available and distributed throughout campus:

The primary source of information is our online clearinghouse for voter information on go.iu.edu/vote housed through the Office of Community Engagement. This website has been active since 2019 and has included upcoming election deadlines, instructions on voter registration, highlights of our NSLVE data, and provides campus resources surrounding election stress, reporting incidents of misconduct, and recognition. Additionally, the website features all participating offices within our coalition, national organizations dedicated to political and civic engagement, Indiana University policies and procedures, upcoming events, and information on legislation at the local, state, and federal levels. Each election cycle, the team produces a voter guide that features ways to contact representatives, a full list of federal, state, and city representatives, and instructions about voter rights, advocacy, and registration.

We share our reports and updates annually with the Chancellor's Cabinet, which includes vice chancellors who lead IUPUI's administrative units and special advisors to the chancellor. This information is made available to both our Undergraduate Student Government and our Graduate and Professional Student Government, during their orientation for each administration. This allows for information to be in the hands of top decision makers who can make change and serves as strong advocates for civic engagement programming at IUPUI. Event attendance and event population are specifically reported to the Division of Student Affairs in December and May on an annual basis.

Lastly, our reports and updates are shared with members of IU Studios, the marketing and communications hub for Indiana University. This has allowed our coalition to create a unified marketing campaign with key statistics, up-to-date information, and shared messaging that reaches thousands of students, faculty, and staff members each semester.

This plan will allow both our civic engagement assistant team and the coalition to share in fulfilling the goals identified and to maximize the reach to our student body. Overall, we believe that access to reports like the All In Democracy Challenge and our annual NSLVE report allows our campus stakeholders to be empowered to take an active role in the civic engagement experience.

## **Evaluation**

The purpose of evaluation at IUPUI is to understand the demographics of voter turnout, voter events, and reach of current campaigns. We will synthesize data sets from national assessment models that will allow for a full understanding of campus civic and democratic engagement. As an institution, we want to know our demographic participation, school participation, and overall voter turnout.

The key audience is diverse in role and responsibility. Our list includes campus administrators, academic deans, unit administrators, and campus student leaders. Reporting will allow us to analyze how to better map learning outcomes for campus activities, develop thoughtful reflection and discussion guides for critical dialogue, and allow us to close the loop on assessment processes. The sharing of data is critical for student buy-in and empowerment. Sharing allows students to enhance their analytical, communication, and creativity skills by being an active partner in building our programs.

Assessment data will be collected twice a year at the end of December and at the end of May to be aligned with annual reports for the Division of Student Affairs. As a spearheading partner on the Civic Engagement Committee, Jennifer Boehm, Assistant Vice Chancellor provides a pathway for reporting to be included in the Carnegie Community Engagement Classification.

Key indicators that will be collected during campus events include demographic information such as ethnicity, sex, residency, academic school, and academic level. This information will be shared in our mid-year and annual reports for the Division of Student Affairs and shared with the Political Engagement Group. This will allow our student programmers to adjust based on the reported outcomes. Our committee will be able to be responsible for activating discussion surrounding changes and provide recommendations for the future.

We see the NSLVE data as key performance indicators of our success. With the transient nature of our student population, the report collects essential information to allow us to make large changes in resources, programming, personnel, and approach. For example, based on the academic schools, we have been able to provide customized messaging to academic units, access student organizations in that area, and physically move our programs to space that will allow for stronger engagement. We see the Ask Every Student framework as a key opportunity to make sustainable changes to our campus culture. Along with the 'Dear Colleague' letter from President Biden about the 'Requirements for Distribution of Voter Registration Forms' we are in a critical moment to make institutional changes for the betterment of all students.

From the previous All In Democracy reporting cycle, we were able to meet or exceed all of our percentage goals for 2020. This included an increase in first-year voter rates by 15% (10% over our goal) and hit our marks in increasing minority engagement between 6-16% in six ethnicity groups. Our third goal was developing stronger student outreach and through strategic leadership meetings, our student organization was responsible for several democratic and civic events.

Lastly, our focus on types of voting by hosting a dedicated event paid off considerably by increasing our early voting by 41% as the main way to vote at IUPUI.

As we march towards the future, we want to continue IUPUI's commitment by signing the President's Commitment to Full Student Voter Participation. With a new plan in hand, the Civic Engagement Assistants, will be leading the way as they play a critical role in developing programs and projects meshed with their interest in social issues.

This report will be able to be submitted with the End of The Year report for the Division of Student Affairs as an appendix report and will be shared with our Political Engagement Group. As we plan final details for the fall lineup of events, we will be excited to report our key findings at the end of December.

