



Johnson & Wales University 2020 Democratic Engagement Action Plan
Developed by: Mary Graf

Executive Summary:

This action plan is for the Johnson & Wales University, Providence Campus. Our goal is to increase education and participation around the democratic process and our civic responsibility to register and vote-- within our entire campus community, but particularly with our students. Activities began with a celebration of Constitution Day on 9/17, with the Student Government Association hosting Constitution Day Trivia. The JWU All in Challenge committee held its first meeting on 9/18. We have begun an aggressive campus-wide digital and social media campaign in support of voter registration, getting the word out, getting students to both register and vote. We will continue to inform the campus community of all upcoming processes and deadlines for voter registration, requesting mail-in ballots, absentee, and in-person voting. We have shared our plan within Student Affairs and with faculty, to work towards maximum participation in the All In Challenge, and to create non-partisan intellectual discussion and exchange. Our efforts will end with a campus moderated virtual "watch party" on election night.

Leadership:

Our leadership team includes the following:

Mel Graf, Associate Dean of Students
Rory Senerchia, Associate Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences
Kevin DeJesus, Associate Professor of Political Science
Lisa Spicola, Chief Librarian
Ian Martin, Associate Director of Student Engagement
Michael Waugh, Director of the BRIDGE Center
Cara Bruno, Program Coordinator Student Engagement
Sarah Buffard, Speaker of the Senate, Student Government Association
Aurora Musgrove, President, Political Science Club

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 posting on institutional social media channels, by posting physical signage

Landscape:

Our campus demographic and voting data:

I don't know that we have measured past voting rates. Our undergraduate population is 6,100 students who live on campus and in the city of Providence. 80% are from out of state; 60% female, 40% male; 57% white, 12% black, 11% hispanic

Goals:

Our campus democratic engagement goals are:

to set a baseline to understand our student participation rates in registration and voting. To increase education, awareness and participation each election cycle.

Strategy:

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

Classroom voter registration presentations (in-person or virtual), Virtual voter registration drives (e.g. Couch Party text banking events), Virtual voter education events (e.g. film screening, debates, lectures series, etc.)

Listed above - due to COVID, there are no in-person events or activities outside of the classroom setting

NSLVE:

Johnson and Wales University has authorized NSLVE.

Evaluation:

We will evaluate our action plan in the following ways:

to understand our baseline numbers and set reasonable benchmarks going forward. Participation rates.
The Director of Institutional Research

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.