

Northampton Community College

Center for Civic and Community Engagement



2021-2022 Democratic
Engagement Action Plan

#BeEngaged

Message from the Campus Democratic Engagement Coalition



The Center for Civic and Community Engagement (CCCE) is one of the core components of Northampton Community College's (NCC) commitment to student engagement. Through the myriad of programs and activities coordinated through the CCCE, NCC continues to prepare the next generation of leaders.

As civic education and voter engagement are considered to be vital components, it is an absolute pleasure to lead and support NCC's commitment to engage students in nonpartisan civic learning and voter participation. We will continue to ensure that our students develop the skills, knowledge and dispositions associated with civic engagement; thereby empowering them to have their voice heard

Today, we invite you to support our mission to encourage students to strengthen our communities through civic learning and democratic engagement initiatives.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stanley Ebede".

Dr. Stanley Ebede
Coalition Chair
CCCE Director



As a member of the Campus Democratic Engagement Coalition (CDEC), I have been fortunate to be involved in efforts of the CCCE to encourage NCC students to be informed and engaged citizens. My work with the CCCE has included facilitating an Interactive Forum focused on "How Personal Values Inform Civic Engagement".

In my numerous roles at NCC: Professor of Psychology; Chair of the Pan African Caucus, a staff and faculty affiliation and advocacy group; advisor the Black Student Union on the Bethlehem campus; and member of the Diversity Committee, I recognize the power and importance of student involvement, both in and out of the classroom. I have seen my students energized by participating in events coordinated by CCCE; all of which will continue to serve them as they move

beyond NCC to pursue additional academic and occupational goals.

It has been exciting to see NCC earn various recognitions through the efforts of the CCCE and I am proud of my involvement to increase civic learning and voter engagement.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gina Turner".

Dr. Gina A. Turner
Coalition Member
Professor of Psychology

Table of Contents

<i>Message from the Campus Democratic Engagement Coalition</i>	<i>ii</i>
<i>Executive Summary</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Leadership</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Commitment</i>	<i>3</i>
Strategic Planning	3
Recognition and Achievement	4
CCCE Focus Areas	4
Integration of Democratic Engagement in Curriculum and Co-Curriculum	5
Curriculum	5
Co-Curriculum	5
Collaboration and Partnership	6
Assessment and Report	7
National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement (NSLVE)	7
Civic Minded Scale (CMS).....	10
Civic Minded Scale Results (CMS).....	12
<i>Landscape</i>	<i>15</i>
Ask Every Student Initiative	15
2021 Lobby Day	15
2021 Day of Service	15
Interactive Forums and Information Sessions	16
Democracy 101 Sessions	16
2021 Constitution Day	16
Get Out the Vote (GOTV) Halloween Party	16
National Voter Education Week and Vote Early Day	17
National Voter Registration Day at NCC	17
<i>Goals</i>	<i>18</i>
<i>Reporting</i>	<i>22</i>
<i>Evaluation</i>	<i>23</i>

Figures

Figure 1 - Campus Democratic Engagement Coalition (CDEC).....	2
Figure 2: Distinguishing Characteristics between Service-Learning, Community Service and Volunteerism, and Civic Engagement	5
Figure 3: Overall Student Voting Rate	7
Figure 4: Student Voting Rate by Method	8
Figure 5: Comparison of Student Voting by Race and Ethnicity	8
Figure 6: Comparison of Student Voting by Gender	8
Figure 7: Comparison of Student Voting by Age	9
Figure 8: Comparison by Education Level/Undergraduate Class Year	9
Figure 9: Comparison by Field of Study.....	10
Figure 10: Overall Student Response, Likert Scale 1-3.....	12
Figure 11: Comparison by Gender	12
Figure 12: Comparison by Race and Ethnicity	13
Figure 13: Comparison by Age	13
Figure 14: Comparison by Major.....	14
Figure 15: Democratic Engagement Plan Reporting Model.....	22

Tables

Table 1: Democratic Engagement Goals	18
Table 2: Fall 2021 Timeline for Implementation of Goals/Strategies	20
Table 3: Spring 2022 Timeline for Implementation of Goals/Strategies.....	21

Executive Summary

Since 1967, NCC has educated over 400,000 students and grown to become the region's largest, most diverse open-access postsecondary institution. NCC offers more than 100 college degree, certificate, specialized diploma, and enrichment programs to more than 28,000 credit, non-credit, and community education students each year at its three Pennsylvania campuses: Main in Bethlehem Township, Monroe in Tannersville, and Fowler Family Southside Center in the city of Bethlehem. NCC is often the only viable college option for underserved students. Sixty-four percent (64%) of students enrolling directly from high school are from the bottom half of their graduating class; 36% are the first in their family to attend college.

NCC has the highest number and percent of minority students in the three-county region representing over 41% (Bethlehem campus) and 52% (Monroe campus) of all credit students; 59% of part-time and 45% of full-time students care for dependents. Fifty-two percent (52%) of NCC's students receive some form of federal, state, or institutional financial assistance, without which a college education would be out of reach. NCC is committed to our students' success as evidenced by its mission: *Recognizing that students are the primary reason that Northampton Community College exists, we seek to provide excellent, accessible, and comprehensive learning experiences in partnership with the dynamic, diverse communities we serve.*

The following highlights various accomplishments and efforts to enhance civic learning and democratic engagement during the 2021-2022 academic year:

- NCC received an award for the Best Action Plan.
- NCC earned a Silver Seal for nonpartisan student voter participation in the 2020 election.
- NCC was listed in the 2021 Washington Monthly Honor Roll, as one of America's Best Colleges for Student Voting.
- CCCE Director was nominated for the ALL IN Challenge's Standout Administrator Award for his outstanding contributions to improving nonpartisan college student democratic engagement.
- CCCE Student Ambassador, Taiba Sultana was elected as the first ever Muslim and Asian-American Candidate for Easton City Council.
- CCCE facilitated approximately 15 civic education/engagement programs and activities to increase student voting.
- CCCE hired its first graduate student intern to assist with the planning, promotion, and implementation of CCCE's service learning, community and civic engagement related programs and services. At the end of the fall 2021 semester, CCCE intern accepted the position of the Center Program Coordinator.
- Through collaboration with the Office of Global Education and International Services, CCCE continues to ensure that the Community College Initiative (CCI) program participants are engaged in service learning, civic and community engagement activities.

The development and implementation of the 2021-2022 Democratic Engagement Plan primarily fall under the responsibilities of CCCE, in conjunction with NCC students, faculty and staff.

Acronyms: NCC – Northampton Community College
 CDEC – Campus Democratic Engagement Coalition
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Leadership

CCCE is not solely responsible for the development, implementation, and promotion of democratic initiatives. CCCE works collaboratively with the members of the CDEC to review and discuss the programs and activities highlighted in the plan. As highlighted below, the coalition members consist of representatives from both external and internal groups/clubs, offices, and divisions that have a major focus on democratic engagement.

Figure 1 - Campus Democratic Engagement Coalition (CDEC)



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Commitment

Educating for civic learning and democratic engagement is a hallmark of NCC's institutional culture. NCC is committed to inspiring our students to be informed and active citizens through a myriad of engagement opportunities coordinated by CCCE. The following highlights NCC's efforts and strategies to foster civic/democratic engagement among students, faculty, and staff:

Strategic Planning

In 2012, NCC's newly inaugurated President, Dr. Mark Erickson led the campus through a comprehensive strategic planning process that identified Student Outreach and Community Engagement as strategic focus areas for NCC. This strategic planning process led to the creation of the CCCE. The following highlights CCCE's mission, vision and values statements.

- ✓ **Mission** - *To provide enhanced programs, valuable services and sustained partnerships that encourage students, faculty and staff to be agents of change.*
- ✓ **Vision** - *Inspire the campus community to be civically minded and make a difference around the globe.*
- ✓ **Values** - The Center for Civic and Community Engagement is committed to the following fundamental values:

***Integrity:** We approach every situation with honesty and trust.*

***Accountability:** We take responsibility for our work and actions.*

***Teamwork:** We work collaboratively with others to promote change.*

***Advocacy:** We inspire individuals to take actions in support of a cause.*

***Respect:** We treat people with courtesy and civility.*

***Creativity:** We set goals and find ways to meet them.*

***Diversity, Equity and Inclusion:** We recognize and embrace the differences in others.*

NCC's mission, vision and values serve as the foundation of the college's commitments to meet the needs of our students through numerous programs and projects that align with the college's six Strategic Focus Areas:

- i. **Enhancing Student Access:** Create multiple pathways and reduce barriers to college entry through collaborative work with our school district and workforce partners, while offering quality, affordable, and responsive educational opportunities for all of our student populations.
- ii. **Inspiring Academic Excellence:** Engaging students with high-quality instruction delivered by experienced, professional, and dedicated faculty following best practices in an engaging, dynamic, and collaborative environment to support learning.
- iii. **Fostering Diversity and Global Engagement:** Encourage and expand the vast diversity we celebrate at NCC and learn from our unique perspectives while preparing our students to navigate the complexities and nuances of our world.

- iv. **Engaging with our Communities:** Engage and develop the internal and external communities we serve in unique and collaborative ways, helping students to become better citizens and to further address the needs of our communities.
- v. **Advancing Excellence in Technology:** Supporting our students, by providing faculty and staff with technology that will empower and inspire them to deliver the most effective teaching and instructional support for all learners
- vi. **Increasing Student Retention, Completion, and Transfer:** Align the College's practices, strategies, policies, and procedures to provide a comprehensive student experience that will promote students' success in attaining the degree, credential, or endeavor sought.

While the strategic plan has 6 areas of focus, the overarching goal of CCCE closely aligns with Strategic Area Focus #4 (engaging with our communities). As programs offered by the CCCE have increased, democratic engagement activities have become a core aspect of our student offerings and spurred campus-wide involvement in similar initiatives. Programs and events are based on current issues that affect local, state, national and global communities.

Recognition and Achievement

Over the years, NCC has been recognized for its commitment to civic and democratic engagement. The U.S. Department of Education and the Corporation for the National Community Service has awarded NCC designation on the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll for the past ten years. This award is granted to colleges like NCC for their extraordinary and exemplary community service contributions of its students, faculty, and staff in meeting critical community and national needs. In 2021, NCC was part of the All IN Campus Challenge and received the Silver Seal for our voter engagement rate (60%-69%) and gained recognition for having the best action plan.

NCC is one of the 240 colleges and universities in the country to have earned the prestigious Carnegie Community Engagement Classification in 2008 and again in 2015 through 2025. The Carnegie Community Engagement Classification recognizes a college's commitment to community engagement. Drawing its criteria heavily from Campus Compact's Indicators of Engagement Project, the classification reaffirms institutional commitment to deepen the practice of service and to further strengthen bonds between campus and community. This classification was conferred to NCC after a rigorous submission and evaluation process including accreditation review of documented materials describing the nature and extent of our engagement with the community locally or beyond. Achieving the Carnegie Classification signifies that NCC is a campus where community engagement is not just a priority, but also a practice that is demonstrated in outstanding and meaningful ways.

CCCE Focus Areas

To help students become Engaged Citizens, CCCE focused on three key areas: service-learning, community service and volunteerism, and civic engagement. To help students identify the similarities and differences between these three focus areas, the following distinguishing characteristics were established and embedded in CCCE's webpage.

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Figure 2: Distinguishing Characteristics between Service-Learning, Community Service and Volunteerism, and Civic Engagement

Characteristics	Service Learning	Community Service/Volunteerism	Civic Engagement
Primary Beneficiary	Student and Community Partner(s)	Community Partners and Clients/Recipients	Student and Community
Primary Focus	Intentional Learning and Meaningful Service	Meaningful Service	Political Participation/Advocacy
Intended Educational Purpose/Benefits	Academic Learning and Enhanced Intellectual	Moral, Personal and Social Growth and Development	Sense of Citizenship and Awareness of Complex Social Issues
Nature of Activity	Based on Discipline or Student Career Objective	Based on Student Interest	Based on Student Passion or Motivation
Curricular Integration	Full integration within the curriculum	None	Supplemental
Reflection	Includes Structured Reflection	Generally not Included	May Include Reflection

Integration of Democratic Engagement in Curriculum and Co-Curriculum

Evidence of NCC’s commitment to embedding the ideals of civic learning and democratic engagement in students’ academic programs and co-curricular activities include, but not limited to the following:

Curriculum

- i. **Criminal Justice:** Teaches students how to decipher patterns of human behavior, legal and ethical responsibilities, and how data on crime and prevention is collected and reported. Courses also cover psychological and sociological theories of crime causation, as well as fundamentals of criminal law, criminal procedure, civil law and the courts and our faculty bring valuable, real-world experience into every classroom.
- ii. **Political Science:** Focuses on basic issues including political theory, comparative political institutions, dominant ideologies and ideas, the importance of law, the domestic and Third World struggles for civil and political equality and international relations.
- iii. **Sociology:** Examines current social problems in the United States from the major theoretical perspectives in sociology; substance abuse, crime and violence, family problems, ageism, sexism, racism, problems relating to work, education, urbanization, technology, health care, population, and the environment.

Co-Curriculum

- i. **Community College Initiative:** One of CCI program goals is “*to provide opportunities to engage students in civil society through professional internships, service learning and community engagement activities*”. The implementation of the CCI program at NCC is essential because it not only creates an opportunity for international students to attend NCC for one year of study, but also supports the United States of America’s efforts in the strengthening of diversity, equity, and inclusion within the educational system.

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- ii. **Black Student Union:** The Black Student Union serves as a social, intellectual and political community for students of the African Diaspora with the mission of increasing Black cultural awareness through unity, respect, and self-consciousness (awareness).
- iii. **Political Science Club:** A non-partisan group open to all NCC students regardless of major. It promotes student awareness in the political process and world events through panel discussions, voter registration drives, and educational trips.
- iv. **NCC Pride Gay/Straight Alliance:** Promotes social opportunities for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered, and questioning students and their straight allies. We participate in local and national campaigns to raise awareness and educate our school and local community on LGBTQIA issues.
- v. **Model United Nations:** Promotes an understanding of the United Nations and issues affecting the global community. The Model United Nations shall emphasize global citizenship, diplomacy, collaboration and conflict resolution.
- vi. **People Actively Contributing Together:** "Celebrating diversity and unity among many people." P.A.C.T. serves as an organization dedicated to the purpose of creating a network of people committed to real and sustainable change. Through active contributions to community building, P.A.C.T members strive to share information and experiences which enhance the development of all people.

Collaboration and Partnership

NCC continues to maintain a non-partisan stance and affiliations with various nationally recognized civic professional entities which include, but are not limited to the following:

- i. **Students Learn Students Vote Coalition (SLSV):** A national hub and largest nonpartisan network in the United States dedicated to increasing college student voter participation.
- ii. **ALL IN-Campus Democracy Challenge:** A national awards program that encourages higher education institutions to help students form the habits of active and informed citizenship
- iii. **The Andrew Goodman Foundation:** A nonpartisan organization that supports youth leadership development, voting accessibility, and social justice initiatives on campuses across the country.
- iv. **Campus Compact - Newman Civic Fellowship:** A fellowship that recognizes and supports community-committed students who are change-makers and public problem-solvers.
- v. **Campus Vote Project:** An initiative to normalize and institutionalize student voting across the country.

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- vi. **League of Women Voters:** A nationwide, nonpartisan grassroots organization of women and men who believe that through informed action, people can make profound changes in their communities.

In addition to these external partnerships, NCC also has a strong internal partnership with various offices and departments including Office of the President, Grants, Marketing and Communications, Academic Affairs Division, Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs, Financial Aid Office, etc.

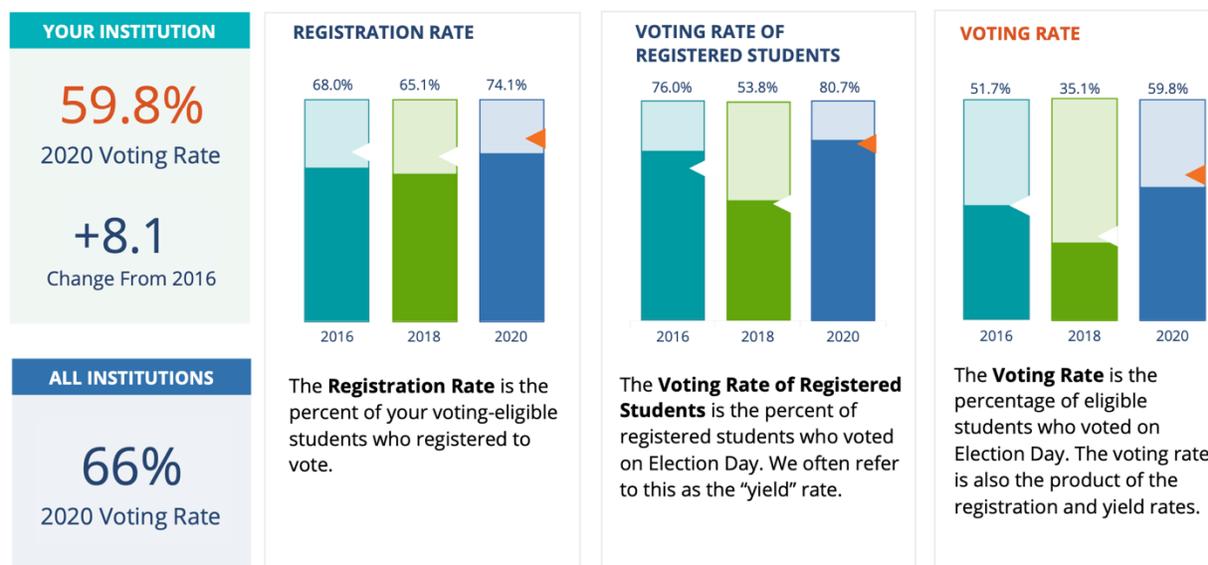
Assessment and Report

Assessment is of great importance in examining various efforts in increasing student participation in the areas of voter registration, education, and participation. NCC is continually improving in their assessment efforts in the area of civic and community engagement through the following:

National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement (NSLVE)

NCC assesses students' voter engagement through the data from National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement's (NSLVE) study and signed up to participate until 2023. According to the NSLVE's 2020 Campus Report published in October 2021, NCC students' voting engagement improved.

Figure 3: Overall Student Voting Rate



Arrows to the right of each bar represent relevant national averages (medians), which you can find in IDHE's national report *Democracy Counts 2020*.

Figure 4: Student Voting Rate by Method

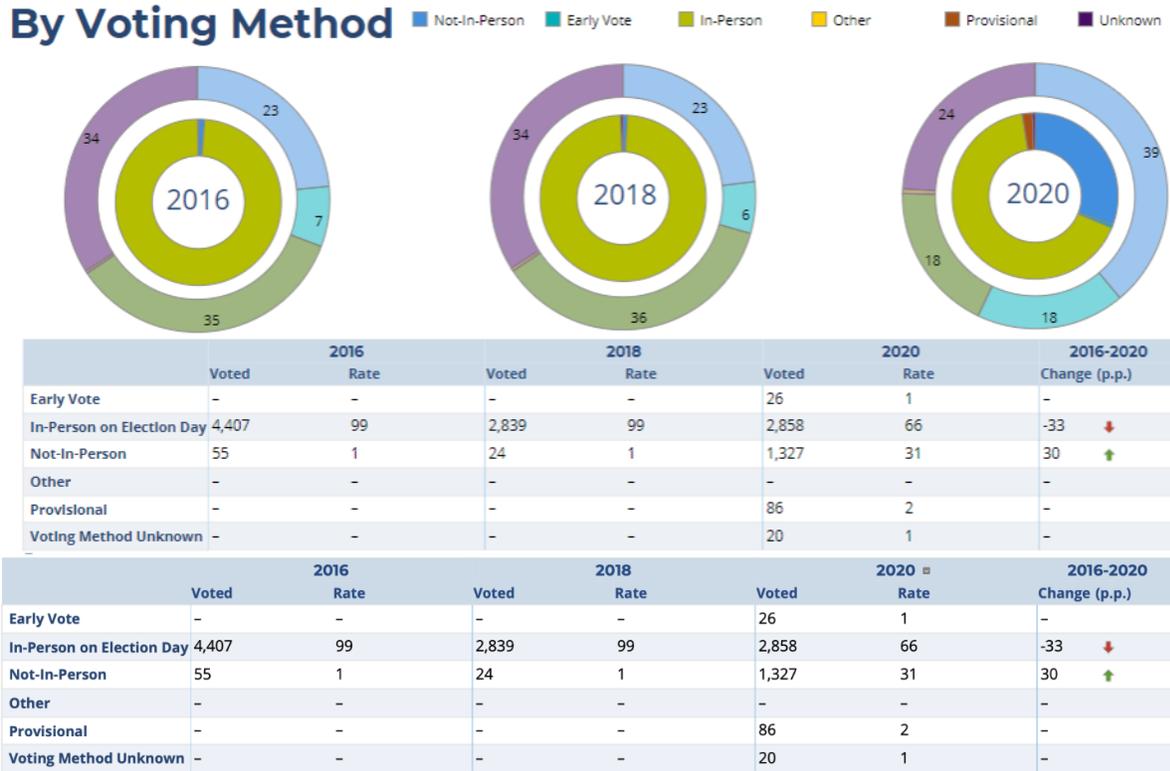


Figure 5: Comparison of Student Voting by Race and Ethnicity

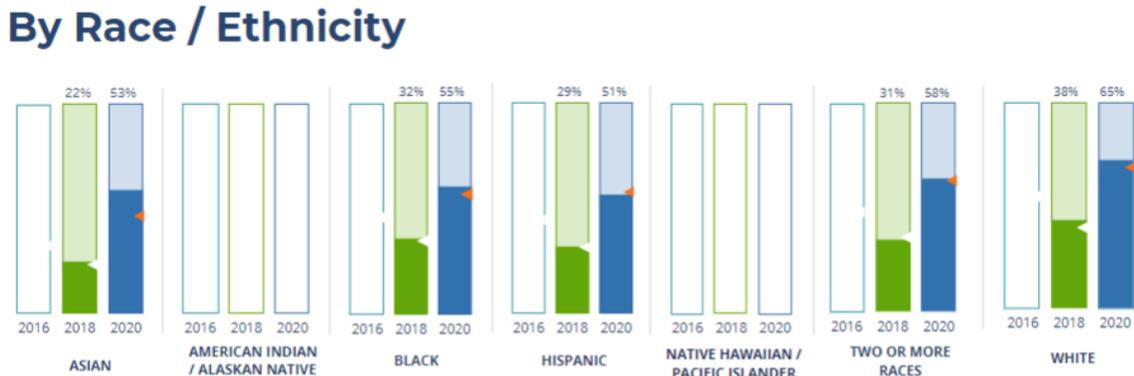


Figure 6: Comparison of Student Voting by Gender

	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Change (p.p)
Female	-	-	-	5,015	1,741	35	4,714	2,760	59	-
Male	-	-	-	3,292	1,132	34	2,571	1,557	61	-

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Figure 7: Comparison of Student Voting by Age

	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020	
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Change (p.p)	
18-21	4,587	2,226	49	4,419	1,407	32	3,777	2,228	59	↑ 10	
22-24	1,367	651	48	1,163	368	32	1,036	597	58	↑ 10	
25-29	1,121	540	48	1,078	373	35	973	537	55	↑ 7	
30-39	957	556	58	941	346	37	887	525	59	↑ 1	
40-49	489	332	68	480	236	49	435	286	66	↓ -2	
50+	233	162	70	226	143	63	177	144	81	↑ 12	

Figure 8: Comparison by Education Level/Undergraduate Class Year

	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020	
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Change (p.p)	
EDUCATION LEVEL											
Undergraduate	8,431	4,279	51	8,090	2,763	34	7,052	4,150	59	↑ 8	
Graduate	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Class Unknown	323	188	58	217	110	51	233	167	72	↑ 13	
CLASS YEAR											
First Year	3,041	46	1,414	1,747	27	475	1,553	51	795	↑ 5	
Second Year	5,713	53	3,053	6,556	37	2,397	5,732	61	3,522	↑ 8	
Upper Level	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
ENROLLMENT STATUS											
Full-time	-	-	-	3,978	1,289	32	3,378	1,962	58	-	
Part-time	-	-	-	4,329	1,584	37	3,907	2,355	60	-	

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Figure 9: Comparison by Field of Study

FIELDS	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Change (p.p)
Biological and Biomedical Sciences	359	180	50	295	112	38	278	159	57	↑ 7
Business, Management, and Marketing	1,154	611	53	1,061	341	32	943	555	59	↑ 6
Communication and Journalism	176	101	57	141	63	45	106	70	66	↑ 9
Communications Technologies/Technicians	107	59	55	115	47	41	108	74	69	↑ 13
Computer and Information Sciences	420	211	50	424	165	39	352	212	60	↑ 10
Construction Trades	34	17	50	51	17	33	37	21	57	↑ 7
Education	368	190	52	426	147	35	418	249	60	↑ 8

FIELDS	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Change (p.p)
Engineering and Engineering Technologies	355	184	52	311	112	36	252	143	57	↑ 5
Health Professions	564	295	52	662	225	34	844	497	59	↑ 7
Law Enforcement, Firefighting, and Protec..	491	215	44	470	136	29	368	202	55	↑ 11
Legal Professions and Studies	76	41	54	65	28	43	71	50	70	↑ 16
Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Humanities	3,274	1,640	50	2,991	985	33	2,113	1,226	58	↑ 8
Mathematics and Statistics	17	-	-	19	-	-	16	-	-	-
Mechanic and Repair Technologies/Techni..	183	93	51	160	44	28	87	50	57	↑ 7
Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies	22	11	50	16	-	-	18	13	72	↑ 22
Natural Resources and Conservation	45	27	60	60	33	55	45	33	73	↑ 13
Parks, Recreation, Leisure, and Fitness Stu..	98	38	39	76	14	18	68	31	46	↑ 7
Personal and Culinary Services	75	38	51	75	26	35	40	33	83	↑ 32
Physical Sciences	58	32	55	61	18	30	36	26	72	↑ 17
Precision Production	13	-	-	45	17	38	25	17	68	-
Psychology	64	25	39	77	27	35	368	199	54	↑ 15

FIELDS	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Change (p.p)
Public Administration and Social Service Professions	173	90	52	166	60	36	178	96	54	↑ 2
Visual and Performing Arts	354	192	54	314	129	41	277	182	66	↑ 11
Unknown	271	166	61	224	113	50	237	169	71	↑ 10

Civic Minded Scale (CMS)

To better understand the concept of civic-mindedness and to assess the extent to which students are civic-minded, NCC adopts the Civic-Minded model developed by the staff from the Center for Service and Learning (CSL) at Indiana University - Purdue University Indianapolis. The goal of this model is “to measure civic learning outcomes by assessing the extent to which respondents perceive themselves to have the capacity and desire to work with others in a

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democratic way to improve their community or to achieve public goods". As highlighted below, the model has four main domains: knowledge, skills, and dispositions. Data from the Civic Minded Scale will be used to determine trends in previous, current, and future NSLVE reports as well as describing how NCC students develop civic mindedness.

Knowledge

- a. *Volunteer Opportunities*: Understanding ways to contribute to society, particularly through voluntary service, and including knowledge of nonprofit organizations.
- b. *Academic Knowledge and Technical Skills*: Understanding of how knowledge and skills in at least one discipline are relevant to addressing issues in society.
- c. *Contemporary Social Issues*: Understanding of current events and the complexity of issues in modern society locally, nationally, or globally.

Skills

- a. *Communication and Listening*: Ability to communicate (written and oral) with others, as well as listen to divergent points of view.
- b. *Diversity*: Understanding the importance of, and the ability to work with, others from diverse backgrounds, also, appreciation of and sensitivity to diversity in a pluralistic society.
- c. *Consensus-Building*: Ability to work with others, including those with diverse opinions, and work across differences to come to an agreement or solve a problem.

Dispositions

- a. *Valuing Community Engagement*: Understanding the importance of serving others and being actively involved in communities to address social issues.
- b. *Self-Efficacy*: Having a desire to take personal action, with a realistic view that the action will produce the desired results.
- c. *Social Trustee of Knowledge*: Feeling a sense of responsibility and commitment to use the knowledge gained in higher education to serve others.

Behavioral Intentions

- a. A stated intention to be personally involved in community service in the future.

Civic Minded Scale Results (CMS)

Figure 10: Overall Student Response, Likert Scale 1-3

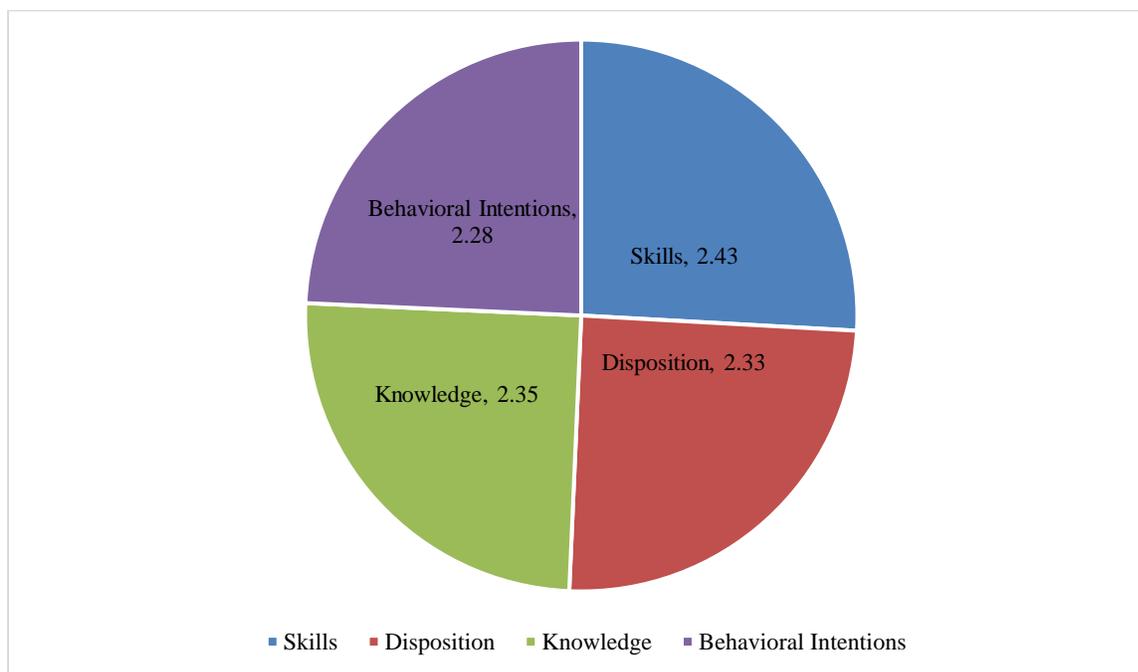
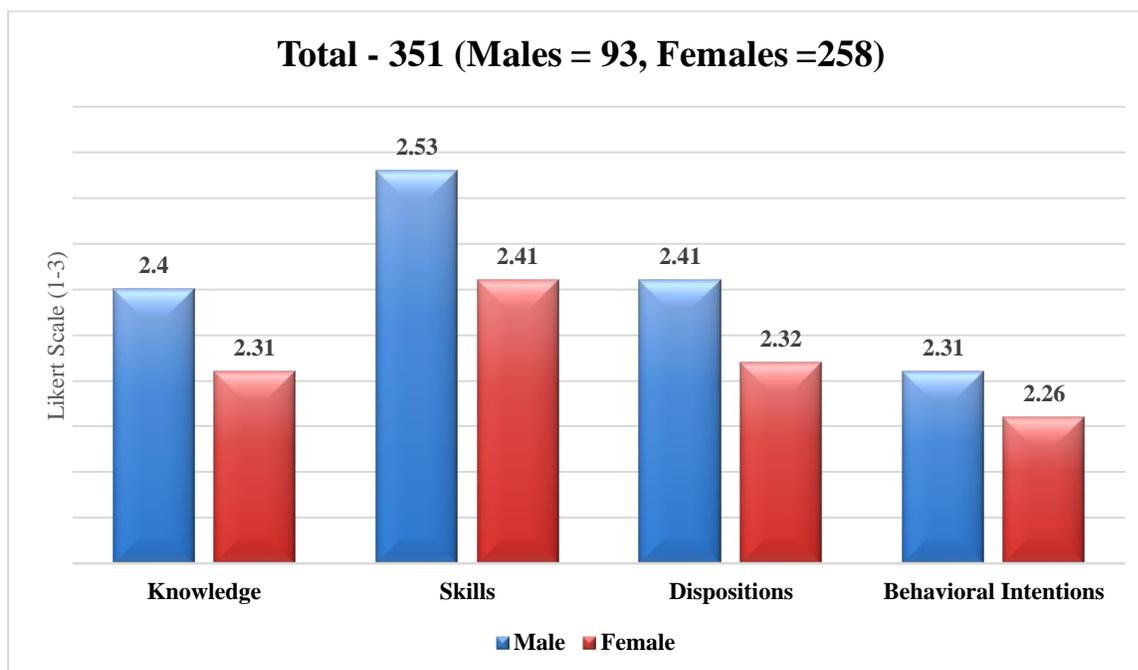


Figure 11: Comparison by Gender



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Figure 12: Comparison by Race and Ethnicity

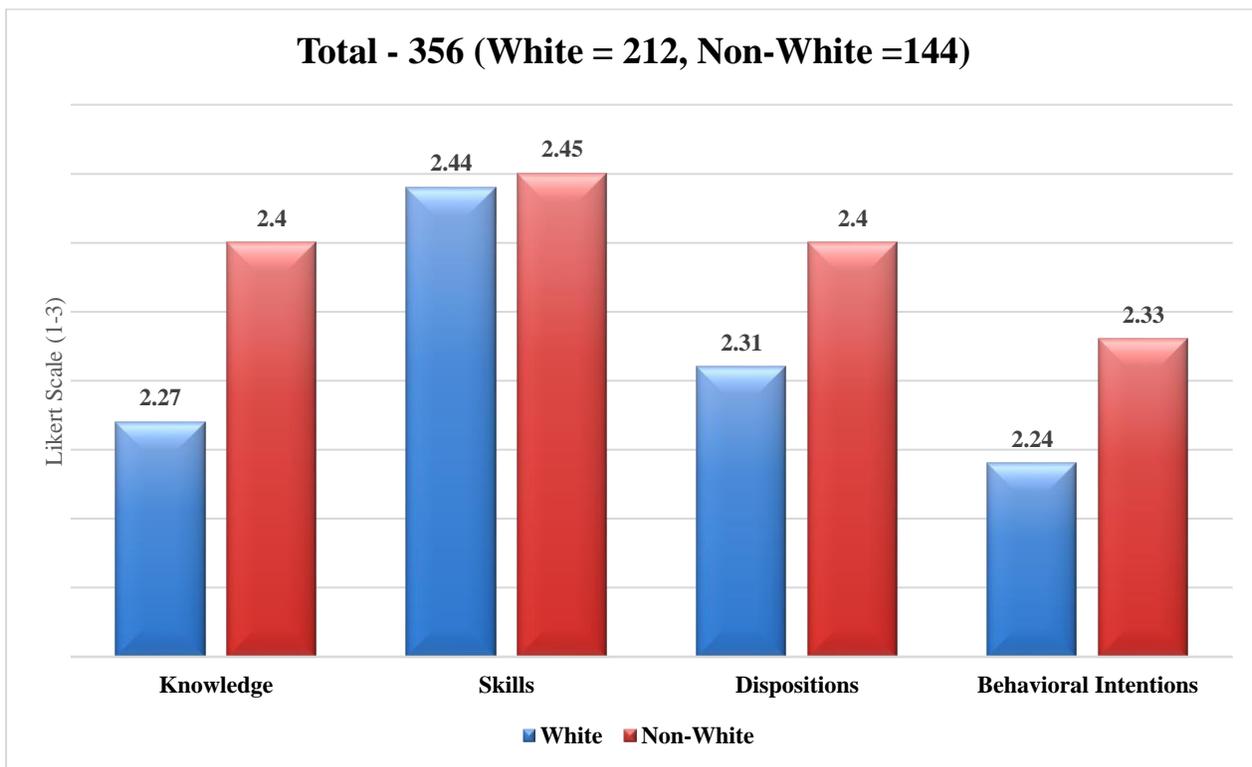
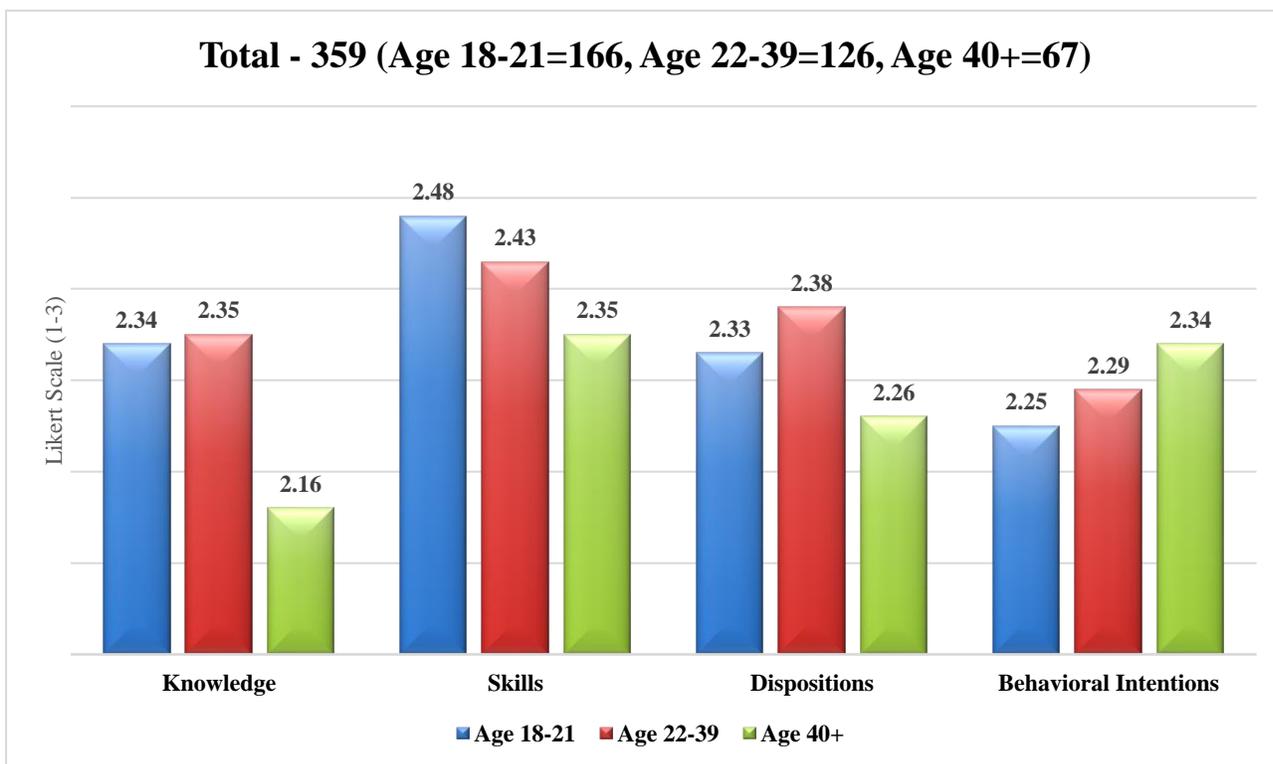


Figure 13: Comparison by Age



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Figure 14: Comparison by Major

Total – 295 (Health Sciences & Education = 90; Arts, Humanities & Social Science = 113; Business & Industry = 66; Science, Technology, Engineering & Math = 26)

	Knowledge	Skills	Dispositions	Behavioral Intentions
School of Health Sciences & Education	2.36	2.47	2.36	2.30
School of Arts, Humanities & Social Science	2.33	2.48	2.36	2.24
School of Business & Industry	2.37	2.42	2.35	2.32
School of Science, Technology, Engineering & Math	2.38	2.50	2.50	2.34

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Landscape

Within NCC, civic learning and democratic engagement initiatives have been fully supported by all levels of administration in terms of leadership, funding, faculty, staff and student. NCC currently participates in several activities and events related to civic learning and democratic engagement, coordinated through the CCCE. Those activities include, but are not limited to the following:

Ask Every Student Initiative

NCC recently received funding from SLSV for the implementation of Ask Every Student initiative; which allows NCC to ask every enrolled, credit NCC student to register to vote at least once, in campus programming, residential life, and as part of special activities, in-person or virtually during the 2021-2022 academic year. Funds are also used to support Project Ambassadors, implement peer-to-peer outreach activities, promote and implement democratic education events, and integrate voter registration strategies into common campus activities.

2021 Lobby Day

NCC continues to encourage students to participate in Pennsylvania Commission for Community Colleges' Annual Lobby Day at the Capitol. Through participation in Lobby Day, students have the opportunity to get involved and make their voices heard. Due to the pandemic, the 2021 Lobby Day was organized in a virtual format, and ten NCC students, along with NCC staff: President Mark Erickson, Board of Trustees Chairman - Robert Fehnel, Legislative Liaison – Joe Uliana, and Chief of Staff – Dr. David Ruth, participated. Legislative Attendees include Sen. Mario Scavello, Rep. Rosemary Brown, Rep. Maureen Madden, Rep. Jack Rader, Sen. Lisa Boscola, Rep. Jeanne McNeill, Rep. Ann Flood, Rep. Robert Freeman, and Rep. Steve Samuelson.

2021 Day of Service

NCC celebrated its 6th Annual Day of Service on Thursday, April 1, 2021. The Annual Day of Service, coordinated by CCCE is an opportunity for NCC students, faculty and staff to give back to our communities in Lehigh, Northampton, and Monroe/Pike counties, and help raise awareness of needs in our communities, and the organizations that serve those needs. NCC partnered with ten (10) community partners to develop one-day service projects that support the organizations' missions:

- i. ***Camel's Hump Farm Nature Center***: Helped plant trees at the Nature Center located in Bethlehem.
- ii. ***Historic Bethlehem Museums & Sites at Burnside Plantation***: Assisted with the event set-up, including moving and staging sale items, writing product information, and taking pictures.
- iii. ***Gracedale Nursing Home***: Helped spruce up the beautiful Gracedale Gardens for residents and visitors to enjoy.
- iv. ***Family Promise of Monroe County***: Helped with clean-up projects.

- v. **Pocono Environmental Education Center (PEEC):** Helped with the Spring Campus Clean-Up, light duty trail work, tidying up and resetting the building for heavy public use, litter pick around property and along adjacent roadway.
- vi. **Bryant Park:** Maintained the park trees, fencing, gazebo, play yard, picnic table and extensive flower gardens.
- vii. **By the People!** Did work on an ongoing project with the Library of Congress.
- viii. **The Gress Mountain Ranch (TGMR):** Participated in the beautification of TGMR as well as caring for the animals.
- ix. **Camelot for Children:** Assembled the new picnic tables and dispose of the old tables.
- x. **Bradbury-Sullivan LGBT Community Center:** Participated in a letter writing campaign for LGBTQ+ Non-Discrimination.

Interactive Forums and Information Sessions

Interactive Forums and Information Sessions focus on increasing understanding of contemporary social issues in local and global communities. Topics for the 2021 -2022 academic year include (a) Gender Inequality in Higher Education (b) Inclusive Leadership: The Future is “Female” (c) NSLVE Report; (d) Self-Efficacy and Long-Term Civic Engagement; (e) Blacks and Criminal Justice System; (f) Share Your Voice: Let’s Talk About Election 2022, (g) History of Voter Suppression in the U.S. Southern Region, and (h) The Five Money Myths.

Democracy 101 Sessions

Democracy 101 sessions consist of a series of lectures and discussions that are mainly focused on the idea and practice of democracy. Students, faculty, and staff will be encouraged to attend. This initiative will highlight some of the major issues that are prevalent locally, nationally, and globally. Topics for the 2021 -2022 academic year include (a) Religion and Politics, (b) Women in Corporate America: The Wage Difference, (c) Civic and Political Engagement Attitudes Among Asian Americans, and (d) Political Rhetoric and How to Navigate Through It. Each of these topic sessions will highlight and educate attendees on the importance of becoming politically engaged beyond voting (i.e., civic duties do not end after casting ballots).

2021 Constitution Day

NCC hosts “Let’s Celebrate Constitution Day!” - An opportunity to broaden students’ knowledge of the constitution and contemporary issues that have shaped our history and their lives. Information related to “What’s Your Constitution” is incorporated in various Social Media platforms and printed materials. The CCCE’s Director published a blog post on NCC Magazine titled [Constitution Day and the 26th Amendment](#).

Get Out the Vote (GOTV) Halloween Party

NCC hosts “Get out the Vote Halloween Party” - an opportunity to broaden students’ knowledge of voting both domestically and abroad in a socially engaging environment. In addition to awarding prizes for costume contests the center facilitates educational voting games. Information related to the history of voting is incorporated into a quiz game and small student groups conduct voting scavenger hunts to learn about their group members' experiences with voting.

National Voter Education Week and Vote Early Day

NCC believes that all voters should have access to the tools and information they need to be confident voters. The CCCE sponsored a social media campaign on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram during National Voter Education Week (October 4 – 8, 2021) promoting a different voter engagement activity each day including (a) Registering to vote, (b) Requesting a mail-in ballot, (c) Making a plan to vote, (d) Learning what's on your ballot and (e) Encouraging others to partake in the previous steps. The campaign also promoted Vote Early Day on October 23, 2021 to further encourage voter participation and engagement. Every post encourages students to contact the CCCE office if they had any questions about or needed assistance with the voting process.

National Voter Registration Day at NCC

NCC is committed to strengthening our democracy by encouraging faculty, staff, and students to register to vote and get #VoteReady. On 2021 National Voter Registration Day, the Center for Civic and Community Engagement (CCCE) coordinated voter registration session at all three NCC campus locations also received support from the League of Women's Voters of Monroe. Additionally, NCC President, Dr. Mark Erickson sent out a campus wide email encouraging all eligible students, faculty, and staff to participate in the voter registration either to register to vote online and in-person, or check your voter registration status, and important election related dates and deadlines. The event was marked successful as NCC encouraged approximately 208 students on that day.

Goals

The following tables highlight the two Democratic Engagement goals and timeline for the implementation of the goals and strategies.

Table 1: Democratic Engagement Goals

<i>Status: Green = Completed and Ongoing; Yellow = In Progress, and Red = Not Started</i>			
Democratic Engagement Goal #1: Voter/Political Engagement			
<i>Increase the voting rates of students</i>			
Strategies	CDEC Lead Persons (Bethlehem Campus)	CDEC Lead Persons (Monroe Campus)	Status
Collaborate with Financial Aid Office to hire positions through Federal Work Study (FWS) to support voter/political engagement efforts and financially support work study/financial aid eligible NCC students participating in community services including voter engagement activities.	Dr. Stanley Ebede and Erin Lindenmuth	Dr. Stanley Ebede and Erin Lindenmuth	Completed and Ongoing
Sustain partnerships with Andrew Goodman Vote Everywhere Program, Campus Vote Project, and Students Learn Students Vote Coalition	Dr. Stanley Ebede, Natalie Sobrinski, Kaycee Johnson and Taiba Sultana	Dr. Stanley Ebede, Natalie Sobrinski, Kaycee Johnson and Taiba Sultana	Completed and Ongoing
Institutionalize voter registration by embedding voter registration information (Residence Halls, Blackboard, student programming and activities, etc.)	Dr. Gina Turner, Dr. Amy Porter, Brandon Andrews, Leyna Beard, Taiba Sultana, Dr. Nathan Carpenter, Dr. Robert Robinson, and Dr. Stanley Ebede	Fran Boshell, Dr. Precie Shroyer, Belinda Austin, and RoseAnn Ferrullo	Completed and Ongoing
Encourage participation in democratic/political engagement related events (Summits, National Voter Education Day, National Voter Registration Day, Constitution Day, Vote Early Day, Get-Out-The-Vote Campaign, etc.)	Dr. Nathan Carpenter, Dr. Robert Robinson, Sam Chen, Dr. Gina Turner, Natalie Sobrinski, Tyler Russel, Dr. Stanley Ebede, Kaycee Johnson, Taiba Sultana, *Arrdel Deducskon, and *Isaiah Pound	Dr. Precie Shroyer and Fran Boshell, and Dr. Stanley Ebede	Completed and Ongoing
Explore grant opportunities to offset costs on democratic engagement related activities including voter registrations and promotions	Kristie Miers and Dr. Stanley Ebede	Kristie Miers and Dr. Stanley Ebede	Completed and Ongoing
Conduct registration drives at all campuses.	Dr. Stanley Ebede, Kaycee Johnson Taiba Sultana, *Arrdel Deducskon, *Isaiah Pound, and Natalie Sobrinski	Fran Boshell, Dr. Precie Shroyer, Belinda Austin, and RoseAnn Ferrullo	Completed and Ongoing
Solidify a “One Stop Voter Registration” location at each NCC sites	Dr. Robert Robinson, Sam Chen, Dr. David Ruth and Dr. Stanley Ebede	Fran Boshell, Dr. Precie Shroyer, Belinda Austin, and RoseAnn Ferrullo	Completed and Ongoing

Acronyms: NCC – Northampton Community College
 CDEC – Campus Democratic Engagement Coalition
 CCCE – Center for Civic and Community Engagement
 NSLVE – National Study of Learning, Voting and Engagement

*Status: **Green** = Completed and Ongoing; **Yellow** = In Progress, and **Red** = Not Started*

Democratic Engagement Goal #2: Civic Education/Learning

Promote learning on 'Engaged Citizenship' among NCC students, faculty and staff to increase their understanding and awareness of the Democratic Process, Voter Rights, Census, Our Electoral Process, Impeachment, Civic Duties, etc.

Strategies	CDEC Lead Persons (Bethlehem Campus)	CDEC Lead Persons (Monroe Campus)	Status
Regular Participation in Campus Compact's Newman Civic Fellowship (recently nominated NCC student for 2021 Newman Civic Fellow)	Dr. Stanley Ebede and Autumn Cunningham	Dr. Stanley Ebede and Autumn Cunningham	Completed and Ongoing
Implement a practice of administrators including CCCE Director sending a letter to all students, faculty, and staff about the importance of being civically engaged.	Dr. Stanley Ebede, Dr. Gina Turner, and Dr. David Ruth	Dr. Precie Schroyer and Belinda Austin	Completed and Ongoing
Increase social media and online engagement - frequent distribution of democracy fact sheets & election, myvoteeverywhereatNCC, video clips, certificates, and other resources via college's news outlets and social media platforms	Taiba Sultana, Natalie Sobrinski, Tyler Russel, Dr. Amy Porter, Autumn Cunningham	Natalie Sobrinski, Fran Boshell and Dr. Precie Shroyer	Completed and Ongoing
Facilitate Democracy 101 sessions, Info Sessions, Interactive Forums, etc. and encourage participation	Dr. Stanley Ebede, Dr. Robert Robinson, Natalie Sobrinski, Samuel Chen, and Taiba Sultana	Fran Boshell and Dr. Precie Shroyer	Completed and Ongoing
Review assessment data to update and improve programs and activities (NSLVE Report and Civic Minded Survey)	Dr. Gina Turner, Dr. Stanley Ebede and Kristie Miers	Belinda Austin, Dr. Stanley Ebede and Dr. Precie Schroyer,	In Progress
Collaborate with Academic Affairs division to implement a structure for faculty to incorporate democratic engagement components in their curriculum	Dr. Stanley Ebede, Natalie Sobrinski, Dr. Gina Turner, and Sam Chen	Dr. Precie Shroyer, Natalie Sobrinski, and Dr. Stanley Ebede	In Progress
Faculty and Student Panels/Discussions/Workshops/Committees – Civic/Democratic Engagement	Natalie Sobrinski, Taiba Sultana, Kaycee Johnson, Dr. Gina Turner, Dr. Nathan Carpenter, Brandon Andrews	Natalie Sobrinski, Taiba Sultana, Kaycee Johnson, Fran Boshell, Dr. Precie Shroyer, and Belinda Austin	In Progress
Coordinate with Student Life, Residence Life, Political Science Club, etc. to Movie Days and Nights with discussions (Monroe Campus and Fowler Center –late afternoons, tie to classes)	Natalie Sobrinski, Kaycee Johnson, Tyler Russel, Dr. Amy Porter, Dr. Gina Turner, Taiba Sultana, and Dr. Stanley Ebede	Fran Boshell and Belinda Austin	Not Started
Include Voter Registration Forms and Democracy Fact Sheets in every Admissions packet sent to newly accepted students.	Dr. Stanley Ebede, Leyna Beard, Taiba Sultana, Arrdel Deducskon, and Isaiah Pound	Fran Boshell, Dr. Precie Shroyer, Belinda Austin, and RoseAnn Ferrullo	Not Started

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Table 2: Fall 2021 Timeline for Implementation of Goals/Strategies - Subject to Change

	Activity Type	Target Audience	Status/Date
September	Interactive Forum: Self-Efficacy and Long Term Civic Engagement	Students, Faculty and Staff	Completed/(9/8/21)
	Campus Democratic Engagement Coalition Fall 2021 Meeting	N/A	Completed/(9/9/21)
	Info Session: History of Voter Suppression in U.S. Southern Region	Students, Faculty and Staff	Completed/(9/14/21)
	Constitution Day Virtual Contest	Students, Faculty and Staff	Completed/(9/17/21)
	Voter Registration Sessions	Students, Faculty and Staff	Completed/(9/28/21)
	Pennsylvania Youth Voting Summit	Students, Faculty and Staff	Completed/(9/17/21)
	Democracy 101: Civic and Political Engagement Attitudes Among Asian Americans	Students, Faculty and Staff	Completed/(9/21/21)
	National Voter Registration Day	Students, Faculty and Staff	Completed/(9/28/21)
	Democracy 101: Political Rhetoric and How to Navigate Through It	Students, Faculty and Staff	Completed/(9/28/21)
October	National Voter Education Week	Students, Faculty and Staff	Completed/(10/4 – 10/8)
	Info Session: The Five Money Myths	Students	Completed/(10/14/21)
	Reflection Session: Student Service Project Presentation	Students, Faculty and Staff	Completed/(10/21/21)
	Vote Early Day at NCC	Students, Faculty and Staff	Completed/(10/22/21)
	Interactive Forum: Blacks and Criminal Justice System	Students, Faculty and Staff	Completed/(10/25/21)
	Get Out The Vote Halloween Party	Students, Faculty and Staff	Completed/(10/28/21)
November	Municipal Election	Students, Faculty and Staff	Completed/(11/02/2021)
	Interactive Forum: Share Your Voice: Let's Talk About Election 2021	Students, Faculty and Staff	Completed/(11/8 – 11/9)

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Table 3: Spring 2022 Timeline for Implementation of Goals/Strategies – Subject to Change

	Activity Type	Target Audience	Status/Date
January	Nominate 2022 Newman Civic Fellow	Students	In Progress
	Campus Democratic Engagement Coalition Spring 2022 Meeting	Faculty and Staff	In Progress
	Ask Every Student Competition	Students	In Progress
February	Interactive Forum: Gender Inequality in Higher Education	Students, Faculty and Staff	In Progress
	Ask Every Student Competition	Students	In Progress
	Info Session: Inclusive Leadership: The Future is “Female”	Students, Faculty and Staff	In Progress
March	Democracy 101: Religion & Politics	Students, Faculty and Staff	In Progress
	Info Session: 2021 NSLVE Report	Students, Faculty and Staff	In Progress
	NCC Day of Service	Students, Faculty and Staff	In Progress
	Voter Registration Sessions - #AskEveryStudent	Students, Faculty and Staff	In Progress
	Ask Every Student Competition	Students	In Progress
April	Reflection Session: Student Service Project Presentation	Students, Faculty and Staff	In Progress
	Upload and post FAQs on 2022 PA Primary Election/Census on Blackboard and College’s news outlets	Students, Faculty and Staff	In Progress
	Voter Registration Sessions - #AskEveryStudent	Students, Faculty and Staff	In Progress
	2022 Lobby Day	Students	In Progress
	Youth Civic Cafe	Students, Faculty and Staff	In Progress
	Ask Every Student Competition	Students	In Progress
	Democracy 101: Women in Corporate America, The Wage Difference	Students, Faculty and Staff	In Progress
May	Voting Engagement Awareness	Students, Faculty and Staff	In Progress
	Ask Every Student Competition	Students	In Progress

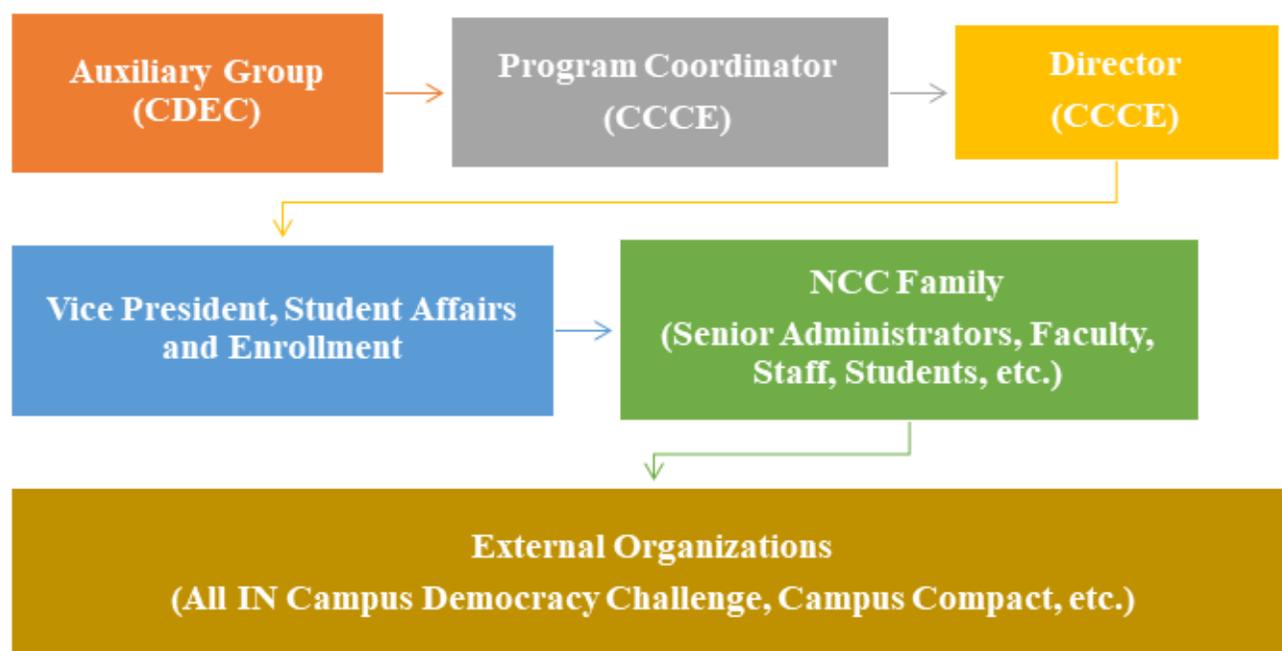
Acronyms: NCC – Northampton Community College
CDEC – Campus Democratic Engagement Coalition
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Reporting

The Democratic Engagement Plan will first be shared among administrators and departments/offices that serve as stakeholders in promoting civic engagement. Upon approval by the senior administration, efforts highlighted in this plan will be shared with NCC; uploaded on CCCE's website; and shared externally with the All-In Campus Democracy Challenge and other external organizations. Further, updates and information will be shared through social media channels and other college news outlets.

Regarding the reporting process, CCCE staff in conjunction with CDEC will utilize an Interactive Report model that catalogs the updates and status of the activities outlined in the plan. **Error! Reference source not found.** highlights the reporting structure for this plan.

Figure 15: Democratic Engagement Plan Reporting Model



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Evaluation

Evaluation plays an enormous role in our efforts to effectively enhance student participation in voter/political engagement and civic education. The evaluation process includes the following steps:

STEP 1 - Develop Problem Statement and Hypothesis

CCCE Director will collaborate with the other staff members of the Center to determine the areas that need to be evaluated (voting rate, civic-mindedness, program/activity impact, etc.). Based on the selected area(s), the relevance of the problem is highlighted. Further, the hypothesis provides a specific direction and a better understanding of the rationale for the evaluation.

STEP 2 – Engage Stakeholders

CCCE partners with NCC’s Office of Institutional Effectiveness in the administration and analysis of National Study of Learning, Voting and Engagement [NSLVE] and Civic Minded Survey. CCCE Director collaborates with CDEC members to determine whether the evaluation should be conducted using all the datasets or specific dataset(s).

STEP 3 – Identify Models for Evaluation

CCCE and CDEC members determine evaluation questions to ensure that all needs are met. For each evaluation process, two evaluation designs (Cross-Sectional and Longitudinal) are utilized and applied singly or simultaneously. The Cross-Sectional design examines the extent to which different types of students are civically engaged while the longitudinal design examines the changes in engagement over time (e.g. time of admission – time of graduation).

STEP 4 – Collect and Analyze Data

CCCE collaborates with the Office of Institutional Effectiveness on data collection and analysis efforts. After data collection, strategies to analyze data include conducting and exploring statistical differences and similarities for quantitative data and identifying themes for qualitative data.

STEP 5 – Interpret and Disseminate Data Findings

CCCE members synthesize results to identify the findings that support and/or contradict the hypothesis/rationale of the evaluation. Findings are disseminated using the reporting model highlighted in Figure 14. However, it is important to note that the process for the collection, interpretation and dissemination of NSLVE may not closely align with the aforementioned model.

STEP 6 – Integrate and Apply Evaluation Findings

The findings may or may not reveal gaps that need to be bridged and conditions that need improvement or elimination. Based on the findings, CCCE and CDEC members make informed decisions and adjust programs and services to improve the overall satisfaction and engagement of students at NCC.