SANTA ANA COLLEGE Civic and Voter Empowerment Action Plan

Rancho Santiago Community College District (RSCCD), Santa Ana College (SAC) and Santiago Canyon College (SCC) have engaged in this process by providing student voter registration drives, promoting opportunities for students to train and work as solicitors of voter registration and poll workers, creating proximity and access to polling locations, registering students to vote, and educating students on how and why to vote.

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Introduction:

SAC Associated Student Government (ASG) partners with students, staff, and community groups and organizations to promote civic engagement. Events are held, such as a Constitution Day, led by Student Life, and Voting Information tabling and events to educate and promote civic participation. We have held a Voter's Action Day to educate the community and students about what is on the ballot and ways to vote.

• Fall, 2012 SAC promotes GOTV with all students on the main campus.

Conducted presentations in approximately 300 classrooms, over 8,000 students heard one or more presentations on the importance of registering or re-registering to vote. Received 843 completed Voter Registration Cards. (Approximately 1,000 students did not have or preferred not to release their personal information and/or opted to take the VRC and mail it in themselves).

- Spring 2018 Civic Learning & Engagement Conference: 13 students; 6 faculty and staff attended in June, 2018. One staff member attended in 2019 (SAC Commencement at the same time).
- Fall 2019 Civic Engagement Subcommittee established by faculty.
- Ongoing SAC departments partner with students, staff, and community groups and organizations to promote civic engagement. Events are held, such as Constitution Day, led by Student Life, and other engagement events to educate and promote civic participation.

Civic Engagement Plan Goals and Action Steps:

• Identify the specific goals your plan is trying to address, and what are the concrete steps your institution is taking to get there.

Post COVID-19 efforts have focused on enhancing student involvement. The disruptions caused by the pandemic have affected initiatives and practices, and we are committed to reestablishing these efforts.

- Reestablish Civic Engagement Subcommittee.
 - Deadline: Initiate monthly meetings by Spring 2025.
- Coordinate Student Organizations
 - Focus on various forms of civic engagement through collaboration with campus clubs/organizations.
 - Deadline: By Spring 2025
- Ad-Hoc Committees
 - Establish committees to convene bi-weekly beginning six months prior to elections.
- Review Previous Goals
 - Assess past objectives to inform current and future projects.
- Community Partnerships
 - Increase engagement and collaboration with community partners.
- Campus Presence
 - Foster an inclusive environment that actively engages students, staff, and faculty.

Strategy for Elections

Our objective for voter outreach is to ensure accessibility for students through both campus initiatives and social media platforms. We aim to emphasize voter registration, engagement, and education.

Voter Education

The student population on campus includes a diverse mix of undocumented, BIPOC, and non-traditional students. Our goal is to provide voting information both in-person and online to ensure accessibility. Easy voter guides will be printed out in English, Spanish, Korean, Chinese, and Vietnamese. We also aim to support students who may be ineligible to vote by providing various options for community engagement. The following steps are the focus for the 2024-2025 academic year:

- Facilitate training for all ASG members on the election process to share with students.
- Encourage faculty to have voting resources available in their class or in their online portals like Canvas.
- Coordinate workshops/webinars for faculty and staff about what is on the ballot.
- Create social media posts and short videos to disseminate important voting information.
- Collaborate with Political Science faculty and students to plan events.
- Monthly resource tabling sessions that provide resources on how to vote.
 - Information will be printed or electronically accessed. Student Life will provide digital devices for students during events.

Voter Registration

The following initiatives will be led by SAC ASG and the Judicial Branch:

- Classroom presentations twice a month (September- November) by students who understand voting registration procedures
- Campus wide events (National Voter Registration Day, Constitution Day, Voter's Action Day, and Pledgister to Vote)
- Table at ASG events (Welcome Week, Club Rush, Hispanic Heritage Month, Family Night, National Coming Out Day, Dia De Los Muertos, etc.)
- The goal is to register 150-200 students. (2022 election: 47 students registered)

Voter Engagement

Efforts will focus on student participation at events, SAC ASG will monitor and develop the following to report data:

- Organize and market events through email newsletters, social media, flyers, and classroom presentations.
- Create incentives for students, like opportunity drawings or extra credit in classes.

<u>Outreach</u>

With students back on campus, we target our marketing through social media and popular areas around campus. Our ASG students also present twice a month in their classes to promote their events and important information around campus. Students post flyers and visit departments on campus to promote their events.

With limited funds, we are able to hold opportunity drawings as an incentive to participate in SAC ASG events. These drawings include school supplies, bookstore gift cards, Hydro flasks, and school merchandise. Items that will appeal to students and aid them to success on campus.

Community Partnerships:

After the pandemic, some of the organizations we collaborated with no longer have outreach teams for civic engagement. We were able to create new relationships with local organizations who have been a pillar in nonpartisan voter education.

•Orange County Registrar of Voters •Secretary of State •Latino Leadership Council •League of Women Voters •Southwest Voter Registration Project • Educate, Empower, Vote, Crew •AltaMed •American Latino Voter Education Fund • Orange County Family Justice Center •Santa Ana Family Justice Center • LGBTQ Center OC • Community Action Partnership of Orange County• Fair Housing Council of OC • Orange County Communities Organized for Responsible Development (OCCORD)

Evaluation and Reporting:

A follow up evaluation will be held by the Dean of Student Development, Student Services Coordinator, and students will oversee the evaluation and report. We were unable to receive data from our institution's NSLVE report in time for this action plan, but will receive that information soon.