



Shawnee State University Democratic Engagement Action Plan: 2022-2023

This plan was created using the Votes & Ballots Action Planning Form. We highly recommend editing and expanding upon this draft before submitting for review.

Throughout this document, we mention the Strengthening American Democracy Guide as a resource for your review. We encourage you to turn to that resource for guidance and support as you complete your action plan!

I. Executive Summary

This action plan was developed by Thomas Bunting, Associate Professor to communicate our strategy for increasing both the registration and turnout rates of voters at Shawnee State University. The planned activities outlined here will be carried out over 2022-2023, on and around our campus in Portsmouth, Ohio.

The following groups will be leading this work at Shawnee State University in order to accomplish our goals and further institutionalize our commitment to civic learning, democratic engagement, and youth participation in elections:

- Undergraduate Students

How can you improve this section? Visit the Strengthening American Democracy Guide and review the Guiding Questions to ensure your Executive Summary includes everything that you feel should be addressed.

II. Leadership

Thomas Bunting will be overseeing our work to increase civic learning and democratic engagement on campus. They will be supported in this work by:

- Tiffany Hartman

This coalition is diverse and inclusive of:

- Representation from different parts of campus, including student leadership

Our group plans to meet Once a semester at My Office

How can you improve this section? Visit the *Strengthening American Democracy Guide* and review the *Guiding Questions* to ensure your Leadership Section includes everything that you feel should be addressed.

III. Commitment

On campus, we've seen:

- Political clubs or student organizations
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On campus, we've experienced:

- Voting in student body elections
- Political speakers
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The emphasis on civic learning and democratic engagement could be increased.

How can you improve this section? Visit the *Strengthening American Democracy Guide* and review the *Guiding Questions* to ensure your *Commitment Section* includes everything that you feel should be addressed.

IV. Landscape

We do not have access to comprehensive demographic information about our student body at this time.

How can you improve this section? Visit the *Strengthening American Democracy Guide* and review the *Guiding Questions* to ensure your *Landscape Section* includes everything that you feel should be addressed.

V. Goals

Before setting our civic learning and democratic engagement goals on campus, we took the following information into consideration.

We know our campus faces following challenges internally when it comes to get out the vote efforts and registering voters:

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- We don't have someone whose job responsibility is to foster civic learning and democratic engagement on our campus.
- We don't have a coalition of people who are positioned to implement civic learning and democratic engagement on our campus.
- We don't have processes in place for registering large percentages of our students.
- We don't have ways in which we communicate voting information to our students.
- We don't use the resources readily available to develop and implement civic learning and democratic engagement on our campus.
- The voter engagement work on our campus is very siloed within one office.
- We don't have sustainable or consistent funding.
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We also know our campus faces the following challenges externally when it comes to get out the vote efforts and registering voters:

- We don't have a working relationship with our local election office.
- We don't have working relationships with community partners who are invested in civic learning and democratic engagement.
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With that said, we know our campus has the following strengths when we approach our voter engagement work:

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With this in mind, we have set the three goals that we would like to achieve over the next academic year:

We have also set three goals that we would like to achieve over the next five years:

How can you improve this section? Visit the *Strengthening American Democracy Guide* and review the *Guiding Questions* to ensure your *Goals Section* includes everything that you feel should be addressed.

VI. Strategy

Below, we have outlined a strategy describing how we will bring this vision to life in the coming months and years.

These are tactics that we **are already doing** in the **short term** (within the next year):

- We are just starting out

These are tactics that we **plan to do** in the **short term**:

- We hope to have a voter registration drive this year.

These are tactics that we **hope to do** in the **short term**:

- Set up a table to register students to vote.

These are tactics that we **are already doing** for the **long term** (beyond the next year):

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These are tactics that we **want to do** in the **long term**:

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These are tactics that we **hope to do** in the **long term**:

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How can you improve this section? Visit the *Strengthening American Democracy Guide* and review the *Guiding Questions* to ensure your Strategy Section includes everything that you feel should be addressed.

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

We are not currently enrolled in the National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement (NSLVE).

How can you improve this section? Visit the *Strengthening American Democracy Guide* and review the *Guiding Questions* to ensure your NSLVE section includes everything that you feel should be addressed.

VIII. Reporting & Evaluation

We plan to share this Action Plan internally when it is complete by taking the following actions:

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- Email to campus administration
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We plan to share this Action Plan externally when it is complete by taking the following actions:

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We will collect feedback on this plan by:

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We plan to evaluate our success by:

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How can you improve this section? Visit the *Strengthening American Democracy Guide* and review the *Guiding Questions* to ensure your *Reporting & Evaluation Section* includes everything that you feel should be addressed.