

Westminster College 2020 Action Plan Developed by: Tamara N. Stevenson. Ed.D.

Executive Summary:

Thanks to the insightful leadership of Westminster College President Dr. Beth Dobkin, the Westminster College campus was eager to engage our student body to register and vote in the November 2020 election. The All-In Campus Democracy Challenge was a favorable fit for our student-led political engagement team from the college's Dumke Center for Civic Engagement. This action plan was developed in partnership with the Dumke Center for Civic Engagement's political engagement team, the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, and the Dean of Students Office. Most of the action plan items took place during the month of October, aligning with the state of Utah's schedule to distribute mail-in voter ballots. The overarching goal of this action plan was to inform students about registering to vote, either in Utah or in their home state.

Leadership:

Our leadership team includes the following:

This team consisted of the following:
Mariah Trujillo, Dumke Center Political Engagement Team (student)
Kelsey Smith, Dumke Center Political Engagement Team (student)
Taylor Baum, Dumke Center Political Engagement Team (student)
Sophie Caligiuri, Dumke Center Political Engagement Team/Honors College (student)
Tamara N. Stevenson, Ed.D., VP, Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion/Chief Diversity Officer
Julie Tille, Director. Dumke Center for Civic Engagement
Oliver Anderson, M.Ed., Director, Student Involvement & Orientation
League of Women Voters of Utah

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:

Tabling during peak campus hours

Landscape:

Our campus demographic and voting data:

We targeted undergraduate students for this initiative (approximately 1,417 students). The demographic breakdown of our student body is as follows: Did not disclose: 53; American Indian:6; Asian: 48; Black or African American: 42; Hawaiian/Pacific Islander: 8; Hispanic or Latino: 209; Multiracial: 84; Non Resident Alien: 77; White: 1213

Goals:

Our campus democratic engagement goals are:

Short-term goals are to engage students to register to vote and actually vote. Long-term goals are to continue this student voter engagement with in-class and co-curricular options to connect in-class learning with civic engagement.

Strategy:

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

In-person voter registration drives

The team surveyed undergraduate students to learn if they were registered and if they needed information to register to vote. Also, the student-led political engagement team tabled in the campus common outdoor area during the week of October 12 to coincide with the state of Utah's date to mail out ballots. Two student-led virtual sessions were held to inform students about voting information.

NSLVE:

Westminster College has authorized NSLVE.

Evaluation:

We will evaluate our action plan in the following ways:

Per the student registration survey conducted to determine voter registration status, a follow-up survey may be sent to the undergraduate student body to learn if they voted in the November 2020 election. The student-led political engagement team is one option to conduct the evaluation with support from the Dumke Center for Civic Engagement.

Reporting:

We will report our campus action plan and NSLVE reports in the following ways:

We will identify opportunities to share our results with the campus community, through campus communications and/or social media channels. We will identify opportunities to share our results with the campus community, through campus communications and/or social media channels.