News Release

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## 123 Colleges and Universities Designated "Voter Friendly Campuses"

**Washington, DC** – 123 campuses in 31 states earned the designation as "Voter Friendly Campuses" through a program sponsored by NASPA – Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education and Fair Election Center's Campus Vote Project (CVP). The program requires campuses to engage their student body and promote voter registration and voting as part of their institutional mission. The goal of the Voter Friendly Campus designation program is to bolster efforts that help students overcome barriers to participating in the political process and develop a culture of democratic engagement on campus.

The institutions that undertook the designation process represented a range of two-year, four-year, public, private, rural, and urban campuses, with a total enrollment of nearly 2 million students.

Throughout 2018, campus representatives participated in trainings to develop, implement and report results for engagement programs that encouraged their students to register and vote. Campuses were evaluated on their ability to complete a three-step process. These included writing a campus plan about how they would engage student voters in the fall of 2018, facilitating voter engagement efforts on their campus, and writing a final analysis on their efforts. The designation is valid through December 2020.

"Institutionalizing voter engagement, registration, and turnout efforts on college campuses is no easy feat for institutions of higher learning; especially in today's political climate wherein many communities are polarized." said NASPA President Kevin Kruger. "With the second iteration of the Voter Friendly Campus program, we've learned that campuses that have been most successful in fostering a campus climate inclusive of democratic participation do so by intentionally including multiple facets of the institutions' community in fostering the skills, knowledge, and dispositions supporting students' civic agency."

Motivating students to register and vote establishes civic habits that last well beyond the collegiate experience. Incorporating democratic engagement into campus life creates structure and stability for students as they explore what their political beliefs are, and how they would like to engage in the democratic process.

"As a part of my undergraduate experience, my alma mater follows the motto of educating citizen leaders. This has stuck with me through my personal and professional

life and is the cornerstone for where I first developed the skills of civic participation. Our work at Campus Vote Project and the development of the Voter Friendly Campus designation with NASPA allows us to continue to foster the civic mission of higher education to prepare the next generation of citizen leaders," said Mike Burns, National Director of Campus Vote Project, a project of Fair Elections Center.

The following colleges and universities earned the Voter Friendly Campus designation for 2019-2020:

Alfred State College Alfred University Alvernia University

Annette Strauss Institute for Civic Life at the

University of Texas at Austin Arapahoe Community College Arkansas Tech University

**Austin Community College District** 

Bellarmine University Berkeley City College Binghamton University

Bowling Green State University California University of Pennsylvania Case Western Reserve University

Central Lakes College Central Michigan University

Centralia College Chapman University Chatham University Cleveland State University

Cuyahoga Community College aka Tri-C

Dalton State College Delta College Drexel University

**Durham Technical Community College** 

East Carolina University
East Tennessee State University
Elizabeth City State University
Emporia State University

Ferris State University
Florida Atlantic University
Fort Hays State University
Frostburg State University

Georgia College & State University Grand Valley State University

**High Point University** 

Hope College

Indiana State University

Indiana University-Purdue University-

Indianapolis

James Madison University John Carroll University Kennesaw State University Kent State University

Kutztown University of Pennsylvania

LA Pierce College La Salle University Lake Michigan College Liberty University

Lincoln University of MO Macomb Community College

McKendree University
Mesa Community College
Miami Dade College
Michigan State University

Middle Tennessee State University Middlesex Community College Mississippi State University Montclair State University Morgan State University

Mount Saint Mary's University Los Angeles

Mount St. Joseph University New College of Florida Norfolk State University

Northampton Community College

Oakland University
Ohio State University

Piedmont Virginia Community College

Queens University of Charlotte Rochester Institute of Technology

Rollins College

Saginaw Valley State University

Saint Louis University Santa Monica College Shippensburg University

Siena College

South Mountain Community College

Southern Utah University Southwestern University Stony Brook University **SUNY Geneseo** 

SUNY Westchester Community College

Swarthmore College

**Tennessee State University** 

Texas A&M University-San Antonio

Texas Lutheran University
Texas Woman's University

The College at Brockport (SUNY)

The University of the South

**Towson University** 

University of Alaska Anchorage

University of North Carolina at Charlotte

University at Albany University of Baltimore

University of Central Florida University of Central Oklahoma University of Illinois at Chicago

University of Louisville University of Maryland University of Miami University of Michigan

University of Michigan-Dearborn

University of Michigan-Flint

University of Minnesota, Duluth University of Missouri – St. Louis

University of Nevada, Reno

University of North Carolina at Asheville University of North Carolina at Greensboro University of North Carolina at Pembroke

University of Pennsylvania University of South Carolina

University of Utah

Virginia Commonwealth University

Virginia State University Virginia Wesleyan University

Washburn University

Washington State University Washington University in St. Louis Washtenaw Community College

Wayne State University
Weber State University
Western Carolina University
Winona State University
Winthrop University

Wright State University

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<u>NASPA</u> is the leading association for the advancement, health, and sustainability of the student affairs profession. Our work provides high-quality professional development, advocacy, and research for 15,000 members in all 50 states, 25 countries, and 8 U.S. territories.

<u>Fair Elections Center</u> is a national, nonpartisan voting rights and legal support organization that works to eliminate barriers to voting and improve election administration across the United States. Fair Elections Center's <u>Campus Vote Project</u> works with universities, community colleges, faculty, students and election officials to reduce barriers to student voting and helps campuses institutionalize reforms that empower students with the information they need to register and vote.