

## ***2006 Help America Vote College Poll Worker Grant Awardees***

### **1. American University (AU)**

American University (AU)'s Center for Democracy and Election Management (CDEM) was awarded \$16,000 to recruit approximately 100 AU students to work at polling places throughout the District of Columbia in the November 7, 2006 general election. CDEM's extensive marketing and communication efforts will include an innovative slogan and logo for the project (to appear on t-shirts, posters, and in advertisements in the student newspaper) and will utilize a variety of other outlets to reach students on campus. For example, CDEM Director Robert Pastor will launch a fall lecture series on U.S. election issues during the first week of classes. Additional speakers to be invited include EAC Commissioners and D.C. Delegate Eleanor Holmes Norton.

The D.C. Board of Elections will organize poll worker training on AU's campus in advance of November 7. CDEM will hold a separate informational session for student participants to review different kinds of material – such as the right to vote and the importance of voting – in order to put their experience into an educational context. The goals of the EAC's Help America Vote College Program are well aligned with AU's focus on service and with a central element of CDEM's mission – to educate students about how to conduct free and fair elections.

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### **2. California State University, Long Beach (CSU-LB)**

California State University at Long Beach was awarded \$16,992 to recruit and train 400 students to serve as poll workers in Los Angeles County, California. Working with Associated Students, the Student Government organization at CSU, and with Los Angeles County, activities will include recruitment, professor involvement, training, poll worker involvement, and troubleshooters (for student issues related to the project). The project will develop media materials based on EAC guidance and other items, and a PSA for use on the College TV stations that will encourage attendance at any one of five poll worker training meetings.

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### **3. Citizens Union Foundation (CU) of the City of New York**

The Citizens Union Foundation of the City of New York was awarded \$19,000 to recruit and train 500 college poll workers for the upcoming primary and general elections to be conducted by the New York City Board of Elections (NY BOE). The program will focus on the technical savvy of the students, as well as the language assistance talents, needed by the NY BOE. Technical recruiting tools will include a website functionality, as well as online social networking, and web advertising. Traditional methods of outreach will focus on entertainment venues that appeal to college students and established partnerships with events like Summer Stage, and Shakespeare in the Park. CU will work with the City University of New York's Baruch College, School of Public Affairs to institutionalize the recruitment of poll workers on campus. CU will contribute \$8,000 of its own funds to complete the project (\$28,000 estimated to complete).

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### **4. Elgin Community College (ECC)**

Elgin Community College was awarded \$12,000.00 to recruit 100 students to be trained and to serve as poll workers and 14 to be bi-lingual poll workers for Kane County, Illinois. The program also plans to recruit and train 140 poll assistants, who will help set-up the polling stations. Student will earn student development credit for participation as a poll worker and, depending on their service, will have their tuition waived by the school. Training classes will include a civic education component and will incorporate a curriculum focused on multicultural, disability and technology related aspects of the program. Products developed will include a "before" and "after" internal poll of student's knowledge of different voting procedures, which will measure the success of poll worker training outreach.

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### **5. Hattiesburg Alumnae Chapter of the Delta Sigma Theta**

The Hattiesburg, Mississippi Alumnae Chapter of the Delta Sigma Theta was awarded \$10,000.00 to recruit and train college poll workers to serve in disadvantaged polling places in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. Rallies and organizational efforts to recruit students will be emphasized. The DST chapter has focused its efforts on involving residents displaced by the Hurricane Katrina disaster. They will roll out their program with a concentrated “free media” campaign, and a training/informational session that will focus on civic engagement and public service. The sorority will set a goal for each member to recruit three other students to serve as poll workers on election day.

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### **6. Illinois Central College (ICC)**

Illinois Central College was awarded \$15,169.00 to recruit and train 50 college students to be poll workers in Peoria County, Illinois. The program will focus on technology savvy students. The recruitment approach is primarily a peer to peer approach. Students will be surveyed after Election Day about their experience as a poll worker, and the data will be shared with local elections officials. Students also will have a forum to share their experience with their peers after they complete their poll worker service.

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## **7. Indiana University (IU)**

Indiana University was awarded \$19,910 to implement a seven point plan as part of a statewide effort to recruit college student poll workers: 1) create relationships through the University's American Democracy Project; 2) recruit campus-based recruiters/trainers, who will serve as "campus champions"; 3) train Campus Champions in the Indiana Secretary of State's curriculum development program; 4) work with local election officials; 5) recruit students as poll workers in their 'home' counties; 6) follow up with student poll-workers; and 7) encourage information flow among the program, the campus champions, and the local election officials to ensure feedback.

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## **8. Lander University**

Lander University was awarded \$11,000.00 to recruit and train 76 college students to be poll workers, two per polling precinct, for Greenwood County, South Carolina. The students will help bridge the technology divide as this election will be the first time many people are voting using electronic machines. The recruitment approach is multifaceted, having students wear t-shirts every Tuesday prior to Election Day, using local print media and creating a brochure. Students will also be required to participate in a post election meeting where they will submit a written account of their experience as a poll worker.

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## **9. Maricopa County Community College, Mesa District (MCCC)**

Maricopa County Community College was awarded \$17,486 to focus on specific departments that will provide a particular kind of poll worker for elections in Maricopa County, Arizona—for example, specific outreach will be made to Political Science, Spanish, and Computer Science majors to volunteer. The program will emphasize the civic engagement experience through the varied community colleges in Maricopa County; focus on college-based media exposure and develop informational literature that will be used on all campuses.

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## **10. Northern Kentucky University (NKU) Research Foundation**

The Northern Kentucky University Research Foundation was awarded \$12,000.00 to recruit college students to serve as poll workers in Kentucky and southern Ohio. NKU has plans to work with election officials from both jurisdictions to ease any gaps in staffing the polls. A “Step Up to the Plate” media campaign will be used to recruit students. Unique media and design efforts will showcase the advertising efforts of the institution.

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## **11. Project Vote – New Castle County, Delaware**

Project Vote in New Castle County, Delaware was awarded \$16,875.88 to recruit and train 40 to 60 college students to be poll workers for New Castle County by partnering with the Delaware College of Art & Design, Delaware Technical Community College (Stanton and Wilmington Campuses), Golden-Beacom College, University of Delaware at Newark, Delaware State University (Wilmington Campus), Widner University School

of Law and Wilmington College. The recruitment approach will be multifaceted, including peer to peer engagement, working with Student Governments, class presentations, and use of internet sites such as “facebook” and MySpace.com.

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## **12. Project Vote – Saginaw City, Michigan**

Project Vote in Saginaw City, Michigan was awarded \$16,875.88 to recruit and train 40 to 50 college students to be poll workers for the City of Saginaw by partnering with the Delta College, Saginaw Valley State University, and Davenport University. The recruitment approach will be multifaceted, including peer to peer engagement, working with Student Governments, class presentations, and use of internet sites such as “facebook” and MySpace.com.

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## **13. Research Foundation of the State University of New York (SUNY)**

The Research Foundation of the State University of New York (SUNY), on behalf of and in conjunction with SUNY Cortland, was awarded \$13,678.00 to recruit and train 50 college students to be poll workers for Cortland County, New York. The program will focus on sophomores and juniors because they are most likely to be available for elections in the immediate future. The recruitment approach is multifaceted, having students wear sweatshirts, placing table tents on dining room tables, placing announcement in campus media, visiting College Republicans and the Young Democrats, and having class announcements. Students will be interviewed after Election Day to encourage an open ended discussion of their experience as a poll worker.

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#### **14. United Tribes Technical College (UTTC)**

United Tribes Technical College was awarded \$18,000 to recruit and train students at Native American serving institutions as college poll workers as part of a tri-state effort (Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota) to fill the need for Native American poll workers on reservations. The program will incorporate reservation-based poll worker training. Educational videos, developed in part with a 2004 Help America Vote College Program grant, will be reproduced, and used as part of a remote training process. UTTC plans to build on the successes of the 2004 program and help inform nontraditionally aged students to serve their polling places, often in remote or rural locations.

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#### **15. University of Baltimore (UB)**

The University of Baltimore was awarded \$18,996.00 for the Schaefer Center and UB's Center for Citizenship and Applied Politics plan to recruit college poll workers for the city of Baltimore, Maryland and participating Maryland counties. The program will use a website and immediate presses push to notify students of the program. Student Election Judge recruiters will be selected and trained. A Program Leadership Team will develop links among students, faculty, local and state election officials. The program will include a civics training component and an extensive post-service evaluation process that will indicate how EAC factors, training, recruitment and motivational efforts impacted college poll workers.

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## **16. University of Central Florida (UCF)**

The University of Central Florida was awarded \$15,288 to recruit college poll workers and poll assistants for Orange County, Florida. Its Institute of Politics and Government will use a new assessment of the entire poll worker and poll assistant roles that must be filled by registered voters in Orange County and those that can be filled by individuals who are not registered in Orange County to assign students recruited through the Program. The project is broken into different phases that will focus on Planning, Recruitment, Results and Research. The program plans to use web based and inter-personal recruitment by student leaders, PSAs on student-run radio, and encouraging involvement through the “Help Central Florida Vote” initiative. The University will use its relationship with Valencia Community College to incorporate the support of the community college network. The program also will conduct a post-pollworker assessment, with a complete report indicating strengths and weaknesses of the program to be presented to EAC.

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## **17. University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP)**

The University of Texas at El Paso was awarded \$20,000.00 to recruit and train 40 college students to be poll workers for El Paso County, with an emphasis on students who are bilingual in Spanish and English. The recruitment approach will be multifaceted, including peer to peer engagement, classroom presentations and informational booths. A “Join the Boarder Poll Crew” effort will use the EAC developed college poll worker materials. El Paso County has committed to train representatives from the University’s Center for Civic Engagement who will, in turn, train the student poll workers. Four students will be trained on qualitative observation methods to help determine number of

bilingual poll workers required to serve the needs of the Spanish speaking voters in the community.

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### **18. University of Virginia (UVA) Center for Politics.**

The University of Virginia was awarded \$14,699 to develop and expand a partnership between the University of Virginia, the City of Charlottesville and County of Albemarle, Virginia. The program will include outreach to Piedmont Community College. Staffers from the Center for Politics will recruit and train 90 students to serve in Charlottesville, and 30 students to serve in Albemarle County. Methods of recruitment will include MySpace.com and other technological and traditional ways of recruitment. The program will employ student-workers to increase student buy-in throughout the process. The students will gain ownership of the process through, in part, a special 'swearing in' ceremony on the Lawn at the University of Virginia.

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### **19. Western Connecticut State University (WCSU)**

Western Connecticut State University was awarded \$16,032.00 to recruit and train technology savvy college students to be poll workers for the City of Danbury, with an emphasis on students who are studying Political Science, Justice and Law Administration, and Humanistic Studies. The recruitment approach is multifaceted, including classroom announcement and a table at the 2006 Clubs Carnival. The program will use the EAC developed college poll worker materials. Students in the program will be encouraged to create an ePortfolio (an on-line journal and profile page) and wear poll worker t-shirts every Tuesday prior to Election Day.

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