**How to Make a Difference ……in the 2012 Election Year**

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| **Get Informed ….**   * **National organizations for campus clubs**---College Republicans and College Dems---[College Dems](http://www.collegedems.com/) and [College Republican National Committee](http://www.crnc.org/site/c.npIUKWOrFkG/b.5771869/k.BFBE/Home.htm)—provide information about ISSUES and OPPORTUNITIES FOR ACTION * **FindtheData**….Good website for comparing candidates and links to candidate official websites <http://2012-presidential-candidates.findthedata.org/compare/1-5/Barack-Obama-vs-Mitt-Romney> * **Minnesota Secretary of State—Information on state/local candidates and voter registration/voting**   <http://www.sos.state.mn.us/index.aspx?page=4>   * **Become aware of proposed amendments to the MN Constitution** <http://www.sos.state.mn.us/index.aspx?page=1719> - - Attend **Panel Discussion on Same-sex Marriage and the 2012 Minnesota Constitutional Marriage Amendment**” will be held at   **7 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 10** **in CC Ballroom, SMSU** | **Volunteer…**  Please complete the online Election Year 2012 Volunteer Interest Form at the Center for Civic Engagement site to let us know of your interest in one or more of the following options <http://www.smsu.edu/campuslife/civicengagement/form412.cfm>:  (We request that you commit a **minimum of 10 hrs** over the next five weeks, including 5 hours of sitting at table(s) in the BA/CH link.)   * **Sit at Voter Registration table** in BA/CH link and assist w/ registering students to vote * **Hand out information for local candidate table** in BA/CH Link * **Assist SMSU Student Govt** with Get Out the Vote effort (contact Kyle Berndt, [Kyle.Berndt@smsu.edu](mailto:Kyle.Berndt@smsu.edu)) * **Join campus clubs** (see SALink) ---   + **College Dems** College Democrats promote the discussion of policy issues important on the local, state, and national level. The [College Dems](http://www.collegedems.com/) are also active in promoting Democratic and DFL candidates at every level.   + **College Republicans** The goal of the College Republicans is to promote Republican candidates, inform the campus of the Republican principles and candidate positions, and to make the SMSU community more politically aware. Membership is open to any interested students [College Republican National Committee](http://www.crnc.org/site/c.npIUKWOrFkG/b.5771869/k.BFBE/Home.htm). * **Assist local candidates with their campaigns** (e.g., dropping off leaflets, attending local events, door knocking, walking in Homecoming Parade)   + Democratic Candidates   + Republican Candidates * **Drop off reminders/info sheets about Voter Registration** in Residential Life halls and elsewhere * **Assist with driving students to polling locations** * **Walk in Homecoming Parade** with candidates you support or **assist with Homecoming float** * **Participate in and assist with local events** (e.g., fund-raising event, social gathering) * **Other \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** |
| **Vote...**   * **Voting Information** - Information about registering to vote, finding polling places, and getting involved <http://www.sos.state.mn.us/index.aspx?page=134>   + Voter Information for students (MN)   <http://www.sos.state.mn.us/index.aspx?page=1609>   * Includes *Know Your Student Voting Rights* document |
| **Service-Learning Option….**  Complete **15-20** **hours** of various forms of civic involvement in the 2012 Election Year from Oct 1-Nov 6:   * Assist with voter registration table (5 hrs) * Become informed about candidates/issues (up to 5 hrs) * Select other types of civic engagement (10 hrs):   + Sit at voter registration table in BA/CH Link and assist w/ registration   + Hand out information for local candidate table in BA/CH Link   + Assist SMSU Student Govt with get out the vote effort (contact Kyle Berndt, [Kyle.Berndt@smsu.edu](mailto:Kyle.Berndt@smsu.edu))   + Assist local candidate (e.g. dropping off fliers, walking in Homecoming parade, making calls, helping with events)   + Help with driving students & others to poll locations   + Assist with/ride in Homecoming float related to election yr   + Help with exit polling   + Join relevant campus clubs   + Other \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ * Note: SL students will also need to complete a Final Evaluation form at the conclusion of service experience * Click on following link to complete the Volunteer Interest Form <http://www.smsu.edu/campuslife/civicengagement/form412.cfm> and express interest in this option by **Wed,Oct 3** (Link available Fri,Sept 28) |
| **Feel free to stop by the SMSU Center for Civic Engagement (BA 239) for more information!**  **507-537-6423 or civic.engagement@smsu.edu** | |