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## Democracy & Equity initiative continues with "Politics 101" workshop

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## **Democracy & Equity initiative continues with "Politics 101" workshop**

Dominican's "Democracy & Equity" programming continued October 5, with a lunchtime workshop focused on democracy and representative government.

Students are spending this academic year immersed in a thought-provoking and collaborative lineup of courses and activities focused on a central theme of "Democracy and Equity." Programming both in and out of the classroom is engaging students in some of the most critical issues facing the U.S.

Faculty in all schools and departments have redesigned the curriculum in 50 courses in order to incorporate the University-wide [Democracy and Equity](#) theme into the coursework. A series of extra-curricular events will unite the campus community and the greater Marin County community in discussions on topics ranging from youth justice, political participation, and homelessness. Many of the fall events will relate to Dominican's national voter engagement initiative, [College Debate 2016](#).

On October 5, Professor Alison Howard, chair of the Department of Politics and International Studies, led a discussion from 12:15-1:15 p.m. in the Garden Room. Discussion topics include presidential election, California government, and the structure of the U.S. government and its implications.

On October 9, the Dominican Political Science Association (DPSA) hosted a presidential debate watch party in Fanjeaux Student Union.

On October 12, the film "Bring it to the Table" was screened in Guzman Lecture Hall. The film was followed by a discussion with filmmaker Julie Winokur. The event was free and open to the public.

[Bring it to The Table](#) is a participatory online platform, a civic engagement campaign, a 40-minute documentary film, and a series of webisodes aimed at bridging political divides and elevating the national conversation. Bring It to The Table encourages Americans to stop bickering about politics, examine their own assumptions, and truly engage in civil discourse to help move our democracy forward.

On October 19, Dominican's popular "Issue Mobile" returns as Dominican students hold a variety of debate day activities on campus designed to engage classmates in discussions about issues that matter most to them in the run-up to the presidential election.

Sponsored by the DPSA, the History Club, and the IGNITE Club, debate day activities also include the "Issue Hot Spot" photo booth, a voter registration table, and presentations by DPSA members on the debates and the top issues.

The [Issue Mobile](#) made its debut in August as part of a three-day series of activities designed to celebrate Dominican's [College Debate 2016](#).

While riding the Issue Mobile, students can talk with members of Dominican's faculty about the political issues that matter to young voters this election year. Popular issues discussed during the August Issue Mobile rides were immigration, education, race relations, and gun violence. For many passengers, the conversations underscored the importance of registering to vote.

Faculty participating in upcoming Issue Mobiles include Brad van Alstyne, chair and assistant professor of communications, Patti Culross, instructor of public health, and Mairi Pileggi, assistant professor of Women & Gender Studies.

The October 19 Debate Day activities run from 11:30 a.m. – 1:30- p.m. on Caleruega Plaza. The DPSA will host a presidential debate watch party and discussion from 6-8:30 p.m. in the Fanjeaux Hall Student Union

*October 5, 2016*