

Indiana University - Bloomington Graduate & Professional Student Government

Resolution to Reinstate a Centrally-Located Early Voting Satellite and/or Day-Of Polling Site to the Indiana University-Bloomington Campus

Whereas, the Indiana University-Bloomington (IUB) campus has announced its commitment to long-lasting civic engagement among its students through increased voter turnout, including,

- 1) In September 2016, announcing IUB's participation in the "[ALL-IN Campus Democracy Challenge](#)," a program that aims to improve student democratic engagement by increasing student voter turnout, and
- 2) In September 2017, announcing IUB's participation in the [Big Ten Voting Challenge](#) to increase student voter turnout for the November 2018 elections;

Whereas, despite these initiatives, there is room for improving student voter turnout at IUB, as indicated by IUB's overall student voting rate, which in 2016 was "lower than the average rate for all colleges and universities and the average rate for all public universities," per an [IUB news release](#) based on national data compiled by Tuft University's National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement;

Whereas, an obstacle to student voting is the lack of an on-campus centrally-located early voting satellite or day-of polling site, which makes voting difficult for busy students (particularly those without personal vehicles), who must arrive to the polls prior to their [closing at 6:00pm](#);

Whereas, an on-campus early voting satellite or day-of polling site centrally located in a high-traffic location in the heart of campus would allow students, faculty, staff, and community members to exercise the right to vote in a convenient manner;

Whereas, the Monroe County Election Board has the ability to allocate (and therefore re-instate) early voting satellites on campus and has done so in the past (including at the Indiana Memorial Union in [April 2008](#), the Wildermuth Intramural Center in [October 2008](#), and Assembly Hall in [April 2012](#) and [October 2012](#)),

Whereas, in the years since 2008, there has been neither a centrally-located early voting satellite nor a centrally-located day-of voting site on the IUB campus (in part due to issues of access and security as [explained by the Monroe County Election Board](#));

Whereas, the Monroe County Election Board, IUB administration, and IUB student organizations, have all articulated interested and/or support for re-instating a centrally-located early voting satellite and/or polling location, as indicated by:



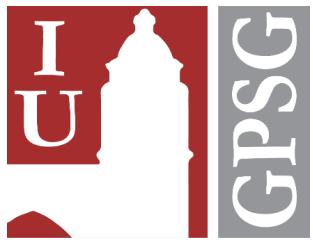
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- 1) A 2/14/17 resolution passed by the Indiana University Student (see [Congressional Resolution No. 16-17-34](#), titled “Resolution to Add an Early Voting Location to the Indiana University Bloomington Campus”) and supported by a group of bipartisan student organizations (as shown on pages 6 and 7 of Eickhoff’s proposal pre-circulated to GPSG),
- 2) [A 4/6/17 meeting of the Monroe County Election Board](#), in which the Election Board stated it was open to re-instating a centrally-located early voting satellite and/or polling location on the IUB campus contingent upon committed support and active involvement from the IUB administration,
- 3) A 4/21/17 endorsement of Political and Civic Engagement student Maggie Eickhoff’s proposal of a centrally-located early voting satellite and/or centrally-located day-of voting site by IUB Provost Lauren Robel (as shown on page 8 of Eickhoff’s proposal pre-circulated to GPSG);

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that –

- (1) GPSG also supports the addition of an early in-person voting satellite and/or or day-of polling site central to campus for local, state, and national elections on the Indiana University-Bloomington campus, with necessary steps taken to avoid previous complications with access and technology (such as at the Indiana Memorial Union, a with which most—if not all—students are familiar due to its location for conferences, talks, film screenings, etc. and which is also less than a 15 minute walk from most places on campus);
- (2) GPSG asks the Office of the Provost and Executive Vice President and Bloomington Faculty Council to take steps toward adding an early voting satellite and/or day-of polling site central to campus, including working with the Monroe County Election Board to establish a satellite that meets the standards for early voting satellites and polling locations, including the requirements of accessibility and internet security; and
- (3) GPSG commits to publicizing and promoting student awareness of a centrally-located early voting satellite and/or day-of polling site to assist in IUB’s participation in the Big Ten Voting Challenge, designed toward increasing student voter turnout.



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Respectfully submitted to and passed by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly on this 10th day of November 2017.

Adam Reneker

GPSG President

November 10, 2017

Date