

For immediate release:

[Contact information]

[Institution Name] Goes Above and Beyond for Constitution Day

[City, State, Date] - Often missed on busy calendars, Constitution Day usually passes without a lot of thought or fanfare. But this Sept. 17 colleges and universities around the state are using the occasion to recommit to preparing students for effective engagement in democracy through dialogue and deliberation – something that was so critical at our nation’s founding and in the centuries since.

In 2018, [Institution Name] is taking this from requirement to a top priority and addressing one of our democracy’s greatest needs: better communication.

Supported by the Minnesota Campus Compact Constitution Day Dialogue Initiative, the day will be celebrated by [describe planned events].

[QUOTE FROM CAMPUS PRESIDENT]

The Dialogue Initiative included grants and training for campuses planning enhanced Constitution Day programming focused on dialogue. These events, held at 14 campuses in 12 different cities and towns across the state, will cover a variety of dialogue forms and methods addressing issues from voting rights to food security.

“Dialogue across lines of difference can achieve better results for communities and when practiced on campus, can mean higher voting rates and stronger mental health outcomes for students,” said Minnesota Campus Compact Acting Executive Director Emily Shields.

Other dialogue events are being held at:

- Carleton College, Northfield
- Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter
- Metropolitan State University, St. Paul
- Minneapolis Community & Technical College, Minneapolis
- Minnesota State University, Mankato
- North Hennepin Community College, Brooklyn Park
- South Central College, North Mankato and Faribault
- Southwest Minnesota State University, Marshall
- St. Catherine University, St. Paul
- St. Cloud State University, St. Cloud
- St. Olaf College, Northfield
- Winona State University, Winona

Read more about each campus’s activities here: <http://mncampuscompact.org/resource-posts/2018-constitution-day-dialogue-grantees/>

Founded in 1994, **Minnesota Campus Compact** supports 37 colleges and universities in preparing students for lives of engaged citizenship and fulfilling the public purpose of higher education. We envision a state where all students graduate with the determination and capacity to contribute to the public good throughout their lives—and higher education institutions are fully engaged with

their communities, working together to educate citizens, solve problems, and build a strong democracy. Minnesota Campus Compact is the only organization in the state that works with public and private, two and four-year institutions on of the role of higher education in democracy. For more visit mncampuscompact.org.

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