

Democracy & Equity fall program ends with discussion on mental health care

Dominican's "Democracy & Equity" programming for the fall concluded on November 29 with a panel discussion focused on mental health care.

Professor Lee Ann Bartolini and students in her Abnormal Psychology class hosted a special lunchtime presentation of "Access and Equity in Mental Health Care" from 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. in the Creekside Room next to Caleruega Dining Hall. Beverlee Kell, President of the Board of Directors for the National Alliance on Mental Illness (Marin chapter), and Jennifer Bates, supervisor for the "Access Team" in the Department of Behavioral Health and Recovery for the County of Marin, were guest speakers.

Students have been 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 department 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 have united 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 related to Dominican's national voter engagement initiative, [College Debate 2016](#).

"The questions of democracy and equity are central to Dominican's educational model, faculty expertise, and institutional identity," said Laura Stivers, dean of the School of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences. "The 2016 presidential election cycle will make this topic, in all its facets, particularly urgent and relevant. Democracy cannot flourish without equity, and equity promises to be a key issue in 2016."

The year of "Democracy and Equity" is partially funded by a grant from [The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation](#).

Dominican's 2016/2017 academic year began August 22. Below is the list of Democracy & Equity activities held this fall.

- Sept. 6-7 --[College Debate 2016](#) events and [Town Hall](#).
- Sept. 12 – A [Conversation with Alonzo King](#) of LINES Ballet
- Sept. 15 – Opening of "[Displacement](#)" art exhibit
- Sept. 16 – International [PARKing Day](#).
- Sept. 21 -- "[Romeo is Bleeding](#)" film screening and Q&A with filmmakers
- Sept. 26 -- [Presidential debate viewing party](#) in Fanjeaux Hall Student Union
- Sept. 27 -- [National Voter Registration](#) event
- Oct. 4 -- [Vice presidential viewing party](#)
- Oct. 6 -- [U.S. Politics 101](#) Lunch Workshop

- Oct. 9 -- [Presidential debate viewing party](#)
- Oct. 12 -- Screening of [Bring It to The Table](#) followed by discussion
- Oct. 19 -- [Presidential debate viewing party](#)
- Oct. 25 -- [Why Should Women Vote?](#) Lunch presentation
- Nov. 3 -- “[What’s Next Marin?](#)” Lunch conversation on housing and transportation
- Nov. 8 -- [Presidential Election Night viewing party](#).
- Nov. 17 – [Community partner lunch panel](#) on Homelessness
- Nov. 14-18 -- [Hunger and Homelessness Week](#) events
- Nov. 29 – Access and Equity in Mental Health Care

For more information, please visit the Democracy and Equity [web page](#).

November 29, 2016