

Political Science students gathers exit poll research on Election Day

Political science students from Dominican University of California spent election day participating in a research project focused on determining how informed voters felt before they voted, what issues resonated with voters, where they got their information, and what motivated them to vote.

The Dominican students, using a specially designed I-Pad application, asked voters a series of questions focused on voting preferences and key issues that influenced their vote. The students were stationed outside two Marin County precincts – Corte Madera Recreation Center and United Methodist Church in Novato - from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m.

Students, including some who participated as delegates in [Dominican's College Debate 2016](#), collected data in order to understand how exit polls are conducted and reported, said Alison Howard, chair of Political Science and International Studies at Dominican.

This is the third exit poll research Dominican has participated in on Election Day.

“Exit polls are a valuable resource for examining the electorate and their preferences and can tell researchers, campaign strategists, and the general public what voters are thinking and how they are making their decisions during a given election,” Howard said.

“Getting the most accurate reflection of the electorate on Election Day is important for both projections and for research. It will ultimately shape future campaigns.”

The students will examine the data and compare Marin to National Exit Polls.

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