

## Snack with Council – Chat log

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### Chat

**Simon Healey** -> All Participants: I'm in a public library system that's part of city gov. I can't answer voting ref questions all I can do is give them the contact info to the county election office / website

**Jenny Groome** -> All Participants: GODORT Friday chats have had some good sessions on civic engagement, especially the voting one. I can't find link to that zoom session. But her eis link to Voting and Election toolkit <https://godort.libguides.com/votingtoolkit>

**Rebecca Hyde** -> All Participants: Simon, that's so strange you can't give them general voting information other than contact information!

**Bernadette Johnson** -> All Participants: I'm in an academic library and I haven't seen an increase in voting questions. My library hasn't undertaken any activities to promote voting, but there are other organizations on our campus that do and I they come to the library to post flyers to promote their events.

**kate Irwin-Smiler** -> All Participants: We're not seeing much in our (academic law) library, but institutionally were seeing a lot of effort to get students to volunteer in any capacity. the university is also doing a lot of get out the vote (daily walks to a local early vote site, etc.)

**kate Irwin-Smiler** -> All Participants: (I'm in NC.)

**Kaitlyn Tanis** -> All Participants: I was asked if we had Voter Registration forms available, but our library is currently closed to the general public (we are academic). I did create a general Elections Guide and a Voter Registration Guide to help our patrons and direct them elsewhere.

**Alicia Kubas** -> All Participants: i've gotten many more questions from our students about how to vote in other states since they're all mostly remote. i know a lot about MN but have had to brush up on how to find info for other states! the best has been Campus Vote Project <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/state-student-voting-guides>

**Jenny Groome** -> All Participants: In CT, all state agencies are supposed to offer voter registration card whenever people sign up/register (drivers license, fishing license, library card, etc.). So we offer the registration card for patrons to fill out and send to their town clerk. We do not collect the registration card.

**Thomas Rohrig** -> All Participants: At Texas Tech, 1) Info on elections on LibGuide, 2) Put out League of Women Voters VG at my lib and other campus libs, do Univ announcement, 3) Our Library is location for Election Day, 4) Worked with sev campus groups to put out Voter registration cards, and got several questions from parents about their kids voting (don't remember these calls in 2016. Well received. I have answered several calls from Circ. desk about where to register to vote.

**Alicia Kubas** -> All Participants: we did a series of online voting workshops and have a voting libguide which has gotten a lot of traction for questions and engagement.

**JoAnna McCulley** -> All Participants: Our questions have been the standard where to go vote, etc. We do not help them register. UHV Student life and involvement did have a voter registration table this year. UHV does plan to host a early voting location on campus.

**JoAnna McCulley** -> All Participants: Our Instruction and Outreach librarian has created a LibGuide for the 2020 Election. In the past, we have had voter registration volunteers have a small table set up in the library. They would be there to provide forms and information for students interested in getting registered to vote.

**Jennifer Morgan** -> All Participants: I haven't received any questions about voting (academic law library), but Indiana University has an online student voting guide (<https://provost.indiana.edu/vote/index.html>) and participated in the Big ten Voting Challenge (focused on voter registration and helping inform voters about upcoming deadlines).

**Whitney Gerwitz** -> All Participants: I'm in a public library and we have seen an increase in questions. We paired up with the League of Women Voters who helped register people to vote and now they are bringing in notaries to sign mail-in and absentee ballots. I created a webpage with our Marketing team to send patrons who would like info on voting: <https://www.mylibrary.org/voter-information>. I'm also teaching virtual classes on how to research your ballot and government information. I even did a staff training all year so staff feels comfortable answering questions too. And we have displays up with all kinds of voter information.

**Thomas Rohrig** -> All Participants: Very nice Paige!

**Simon Healey** -> All Participants: Yes the library is a full part of city government under very strict political activity rules for city employees

**Amy Laub-Carroll** -> All Participants: One of my reference colleagues and I stood at the entrance to our library on the deadline date for registering to vote in Kentucky and asked everyone who entered if they were registered to vote and if they knew where the voting locations are. We had a card to give them with the website for voter information and the libguide created by our Poli-Sci librarian (<https://libguides.uky.edu/voteKY2020>). For those who were out of state and needed to register to vote in their state, we looked up the information and even helped them register online, if needed.

**Carolyn Klotzbach-Russell** -> All Participants: Like Bernadette, at U of Buffalo we haven't seen a large increase in questions among students but we are promoting information through a voter resources libguide and virtual book display on voting throughout history. I've had more questions among staff and faculty than students.

**Ronnie Joiner** -> All Participants: We set up a table outside the library for National Voter Registration Day on September 22nd, allowing us to interact with computer users, day shelter users, and customers picking up holds. We also had customers stop by who had heard about it through advertising. We are currently providing information and computer access so people can request a ballot.

**Simon Healey** -> All Participants: On the other hand in Philadelphia (yes Trump loves us) and we've gone from being stricter than TX on non in person voting to super Utah with mail ballots too all that registered and lawsuits almost every week and the massive amounts of money spent on voter education - fun times for gov doc librarians

**Renee Bosman** -> All Participants: I taught one of our virtual "Adulting 101" workshops on researching candidates

**kate Irwin-Smiler** -> All Participants: Yay pollworkers! (me too)

**Carolyn Klotzbach-Russell** -> All Participants: I love that idea, Renee.

**Simon Healey** -> All Participants: and more clarification I could answer a voting ref question

on the legal voting lawsuits ... but not for how to vote

**kate Irwin-Smiler** -> All Participants: (Renee, I'm sitting here with my sample ballot... gotta look up the local races!)

**Jenny Groome** -> All Participants: I was a poll observer in the 1980s. It was great - but a little hard when a voter with mental disability asked the candidate to come with her into the voting booth (back when it was a real booth). She was allowed to have help, but it shouldn't have been the candidate who just happened to be voting at that moment.

**Rita Wilson** -> All Participants: UT San Antonio is an early voting site and election day location.

**Simon Healey** -> All Participants: 30+ public libraries will be polling stations and will be closed for approx 10 days for pre / post cleaning and set up and breakdown of polling machines

**Thomas Rohrig** -> All Participants: In Lubbock, fortunately during early voting and Election Day, people can vote at all polling locations. Really is convenient.

**Simon Healey** -> All Participants: used mail ballot to vote but if I had a good pair of eyeballs I would be able to see my polling place from my apartment window

**kate Irwin-Smiler** -> All Participants: Thanks for the links, y'all!

**Jenny Groome** -> All Participants: Thanks for links.

**Min Shaheen** -> All Participants: My library system works with the county's election department in voter registration. Patrons can pick up the forms and returned the completed forms if they choose at all our branches. Many of our branch libraries are early voting sites. Some staff also work as poll workers.

**Jenny Groome** -> All Participants: Wish I could find link to GODORT session - it was really really helpful.

**Jenny Groome** -> All Participants: They were recorded

**Alicia Kubas** -> All Participants: thanks for this chat! it was great

**robbie sittel** -> All Participants: thanks all

**kate Irwin-Smiler** -> All Participants: thanks!

**Rebecca Hyde** -> All Participants: Thank you!

**Simon Healey** -> All Participants: thank you

**JoAnna McCulley** -> All Participants: thank you!

**Thomas Rohrig** -> All Participants: Thank you!

**Angela Kent** -> All Participants: Thank you!

**Jenny Groome** -> All Participants: Thanks

**Kate Pitcher** -> All Participants: Thanks everyone!

**Vicki Tate** -> All Participants: Yes, I enjoy hearing from other libraries

**Sinai Wood** -> All Participants: Thank you! Great idea virtual snack time.

**Thomas Rohrig** -> All Participants: I got some great ideas for the future. Love the idea of giving all incoming freshmen Voter Registration cards since most students will be changing addresses, even if live in the same town, e.g. moving into dorms, off-campus, etc.