Election 2020: Important Messages for Students, Staff and Faculty

Acknowledge that 2020 is a year like no other- and this election is a part of that.
- In response to the coronavirus pandemic, many states are allowing more voters to use mail ballots than in past elections.

Don't Panic If We Don't Know the Results Right Away
- It takes elections officials longer to verify and count mail ballots than votes cast by electronic voting machines because they need extra time to double check that those ballots have been verified and counted before announcing a result.
- Democracy is worth the wait!
- Voter Registration efforts focus on the messaging that every vote matters- and to that end, every vote deserves to be counted.

But, the Not Knowing is Not Fun
- Some may use the waiting period to their political advantage, calling into question the integrity of our elections and sowing doubt in our elections process.
- The best way to combat this misinformation and maintain stability is to ensure that our staff, students and faculty are prepared and know what to expect in Advance.
- [Media Bias Resources](#) can help students, staff and faculty increase their media literacy and sort through political bias of media outlets.
- [Common Questions After Eleciton Day](#) makes it easier to understand the mechanics of the election and offers quick answers to questions that may come up if a clear winner is not determined on November 3, 2020.
- Also, UC San Diego is hosting a webinar on November 5, 2020 from 2:00-5:00 called "Election 2020: What Now? What Next" featuring of panel of UC San Diego Political Science professors, who will break down in real time what is happening or has happened. This willbe a great event with clear and digestible updates on what we know and what inferences we can draw from historical elections.

Resources:
All content in this advisement paired down from the following resources:
[Civic Alliance: Election Day and Post-Election Guide](#)
[Campus Election Engagement Project: Common Questions After Elections 2020: A Student Guide](#)
[Campus Election Engagement Project: The Road Ahead, Processing the 2020 Election](#)

These resources are available in full at [freespeech.ucsd.edu](#).