Dear Students, Faculty and Staff,

As we close in on election season, I want to remind you how important your voice is on this campus, in this state, and in this country. In the weeks leading up to Election Day, events have been planned to provide you with opportunities to register to vote while also providing you with resources to facilitate informed decision-making about candidates. If you are eligible, I encourage each of you to register and to vote on November 8.

Today we kick off our UIC Votes campaign by welcoming Flint Taylor to UIC as our Constitution Day speaker. Mr. Taylor is a civil rights attorney who has spent much of his career as a prosecutor for police brutality, government misconduct, and death penalty cases. You can hear his talk, register to vote, and learn more about ways to get involved with civic engagement organizations on campus and in the community from 11 AM to 1 PM in SCE 602.

Next Monday at the UIC Bowling Alley, you will be able to watch the presidential debate and bowl for free from 8 to 10 PM. Volunteers will be available to help you register to vote should you wish to do so. The next day, September 27, is National Voter Registration Day, and we will be hosting UIC Rocks the Vote on the Quad from 11 AM to 1 PM. You will be able to register to vote, apply for an absentee ballot, find your polling location, and have some fun while you’re doing it!

If you are not able to register in person at our campus events or in the Student Leadership Development and Volunteer Services Office in SCE 390, you can register online at elections.il.gov. To register to vote in another state, please visit registertovote.org. And please remember, the deadline to register in Illinois is October 12, while deadlines vary by state.

Please keep these requirements in mind if you plan to register to vote. You must:
- be a citizen of the United States
- be a resident of Illinois and of your election precinct at least 30 days before the election
- be at least 18 years old on or before the election
- not be in jail for a felony conviction
- not claim the right to vote anywhere else

In 2012, only 40% of eligible UIC students voted in the presidential election. The UIC Votes campaign is my challenge to the UIC community to register if eligible, become informed, and get out to the polls and vote. Dedicated students, faculty, and staff are working diligently to help ensure that nothing will prevent your doing so. If you have any questions, they can answer and direct you to the appropriate resources. On behalf of UIC, I encourage you to participate, exercise your right and fulfill your obligation.

Sincerely,

Michael D. Amiridis
Chancellor

For a full calendar of events, visit go.uic.edu/civicengagement

For non-partisan information on candidates and issues, visit:

- Ballot Ready – ballotready.org
- League of Women Voters – lwv.org
- Vote Smart – votesmart.org

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