Section 6: Examples of Participant Inquiry Emails
Hello,

You are receiving this email because you’ve been randomly selected to participate in a unique and exciting experience this year.

We’d like you to participate in an event called “Campus Conversations.” The initiative, which uses a deliberative poll, will give students a new voice on campus. The results of the poll will be given to administrators as they shape future campus policy. The topic for the spring 2006 event is “The Student Bill of Rights.”

Here is what your participation entails:

After responding to this email indicating whether or not you’d like to participate, we’ll send you some material that we’d like you to read (it shouldn’t take more than a half hour) before you attend a three hour session on Wednesday, April 12th (don’t worry, it won’t start until 5:00PM and will end at 8:30PM; and, we’ll feed you). This session will place you in small groups with other randomly selected undergraduates. After filling out a questionnaire, you’ll have the opportunity to discuss the materials we sent you and ask experts questions that you’ve developed in your small groups. Finally, after some more discussion with your peers in the small group, we’ll ask you to fill out a follow-up survey.

Your participation will conclude with a brief survey you will be asked to complete in the spring.

While you won’t receive any compensation for your participation, we’ll provide you with pizza and soft drinks on April 12th. Of course, participation is completely voluntary.

If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to email rweinste@andrew.cmu.edu. For more information on Deliberative Polling® at Carnegie Mellon, you can visit http://caae.phil.cmu.edu/cc/

Again, please respond to this email indicating whether or not you’d like to participate (if you don’t, you may keep getting emails like this one).

See you on the 12th!

Sincerely,
Randall Weinsten
Coro Fellow in Local Democracy

Robert Cavalier
Co-Director, Southwestern Pennsylvania Program for Deliberative Democracy
Director, Center for the Advancement of Applied Ethics and Political Philosophy
Important! This message has been blind carbon-copied to you. Please do not reply-to-all or forward it without the author’s permission.

CAMPUS CONVERSATION ON PUBLIC ART: HOLD THE DATE!

Date and Time: Wednesday, April 11th. 5:00PM - 8:30 PM

Location: Steinberger Auditorium (Baker Hall A53)

Topic: Public Art Policy on Campus

Dear Carnegie Mellon Faculty Member,

You are receiving this email because you have been randomly selected for invitation to participate in a vital discussion about public art policy on campus. This structured, informed discussion is part of Carnegie Mellon’s Campus Conversations project and uses the protocols of Jim Fishkin’s Deliberate Poll. Your participation is crucial to the success of this event and will give you the opportunity to express your views about one of the most talked about and controversial issues on campus.

The deliberative poll is hosted by the University Libraries. Our goal is to bring together a wide variety of campus groups in order to create a rich and rewarding discussion of art policy that will help the President’s Public Art Committee better make decisions in accordance with the things most important to the people who live, work and study on campus and come into contact with public art on a daily basis. Democratic events also have the added benefit of promoting civic engagement and fostering a sense of community, so there’s still a lot to be gained even if you don’t have strong opinions about art, and we’re certain that your attendance will be a rewarding and memorable experience.

To satisfy the needs of those who wish to discuss the broader issue of the role of public art and to facilitate a sustained and informed conversation, a number of events have been planned both leading up to and following the deliberative poll. A special session, “Debating Public Art”, will be hosted by the Center for the Arts in Society on Wednesday, March 28th at 4:30 PM in Baker 154R. Finally, online resources and discussion tools will be available to continue the discussion from April 11th through April 16th (see Project PICOLA at http://caae.phil.cmu.edu/picola/public_art/).

Additional information, as well as registration information will be sent to you after classes resume following the mid-semester break (in the meantime, feel free to visit the Campus Conversations website at http://caae.phil.cmu.edu/cc/), but at the same time we realize how busy everyone is here at the University, and kindly ask you to hold the April 11th event on your calendar so that you’ll be able to participate.

(Closing statement and contact info for University Libraries representative here)
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CAMPUS CONVERSATION ON MARRIAGE IN AMERICA: YOUR PARTICIPATION NEEDED

Date and Time: Wednesday, November 14th. 5:00PM - 8:30 PM

Location: 2315 Doherty Hall

Topic: Marriage in America

Dear Carnegie Mellon Student,

You are receiving this email because you have been randomly selected for invitation to participate in a vital discussion about marriage in America and the Pennsylvania “Marriage Protection Amendment”. This structured, informed discussion is part of Carnegie Mellon's Campus Conversations project and uses the protocols of Jim Fishkin’s Deliberate Poll. Your participation is crucial to the success of this event and will give you the opportunity to express your views about one of the most talked about and controversial issues today.

Here is what your participation entails:

Register for the event as soon as possible by following this link:

http://alumni.cmu.edu/cc1.html

After registering you’ll be asked to fill out a short, confidential questionnaire and then will be directed to background materials on the history of marriage, religion, and homosexuality as well as the current policy debate. These materials are also available at our University Libraries. We’d like you to read the materials before you attend a three-hour session on Wednesday, November 14th. Registration is at 5 PM, with the opening session beginning promptly at 5:30. The evening will wrap-up at 8:30.

At this event, you’ll have the opportunity to discuss the issue of marriage in small discussion groups with other randomly selected undergraduates, grad students, faculty, staff and alumni. You’ll also have the opportunity to ask a resource panel questions that your group has developed. Finally, after meeting again in your small groups, we’ll ask you to fill out a follow-up survey.

Because your participation as a member of the student random sample is very important to us, you will receive a $25 stipend for attending. In addition, food and refreshments will be available throughout the event. Of course, participation is completely voluntary. However, we urge you to attend in order to make your voice heard and guarantee a sufficient sample size.
If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to e-mail Ashley Birt at abirt@andrew.cmu.edu and a reply will be sent within 24 hours. For more information about Deliberative Polling at Carnegie Mellon, as well as the events surrounding the upcoming Campus Conversation, please visit:

http://caae.phil.cmu.edu/cc/polls/

Again, please follow this link to register:
http://alumni.cmu.edu/cc1.html

We hope to see you at 5 PM on November 14th!

Sincerely,

Ashley Birt
Coro Fellow in Local Democracy
Campus Conversations Project
abirt@andrew.cmu.edu
412.268.7641
Important! This message has been blind carbon-copied to you. Please do not reply-to-all or forward it without the author’s permission.

CAMPUS CONVERSATION ON MARRIAGE IN AMERICA: YOUR PARTICIPATION NEEDED

Date and Time: Wednesday, November 14th. 5:00PM - 8:30 PM

Location: 2315 Doherty Hall

Topic: Marriage in America

Dear Carnegie Mellon Faculty,

A short while ago we contacted you regarding an upcoming deliberative poll on same-sex marriage. We now hope that you will join us by registering for this event. Here is what your participation entails:

Register for the event as soon as possible by following this link:

http://alumni.cmu.edu/cc2.html

After registering you’ll be asked to fill out a short, confidential questionnaire and then will be directed to background materials on the history of marriage, religion, and homosexuality as well as the current policy debate. These materials are also available at our University Libraries. We’d like you to read the materials before you attend a three-hour session on Wednesday, November 14th. Registration is at 5 PM, with the opening session beginning promptly at 5:30. The evening will wrap-up at 8:30.

At this event, you’ll have the opportunity to discuss the issue of marriage in small discussion groups with other randomly selected undergraduates, grad students, faculty, staff and alumni. You’ll also have the opportunity to ask a resource panel questions that your group has developed. Finally, after meeting again in your small groups, we’ll ask you to fill out a follow-up survey.

If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to e-mail Ashley Birt at abirt@andrew.cmu.edu and a reply will be sent within 24 hours. For more information about Deliberative Polling at Carnegie Mellon, as well as the events surrounding the upcoming Campus Conversation, please visit:

http://caae.phil.cmu.edu/cc/polls/

Again, please follow this link to register:

http://alumni.cmu.edu/cc2.html
We hope to see you at 5 PM on November 14th!

Sincerely,

Ashley Birt
Coro Intern in Local Democracy
Campus Conversations Project
abirt@andrew.cmu.edu
412.268.7641
Important! This message has been blind carbon-copied to you. Please do not reply-to-all or forward it without the author’s permission.

This is your final chance to sign-up to participate in a discussion about one of the most talked about and controversial issues today. Register for the Campus Conversation on the Issue of Marriage in America: the PA Marriage Protection Amendment now!

This deliberative discussion takes place this week on Wednesday, November 14 at 5:00pm in 2315 Doherty Hall.

Here is what your participation entails:

1. Register for the event as soon as possible by reviewing and electronically signing the consent form at http://alumni.cmu.edu/cc2.html
2. Fill out a short, confidential questionnaire (this takes 5 to 7 minutes).
3. Read the background materials (this takes about 30 minutes).
4. Attend a three-hour session on Wednesday, November 14th (sign-in at 5:00, with deliberations beginning at 5:30 - 8:30)
5. Fill out another questionnaire.

If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to e-mail Ashley Birt at abirt@andrew.cmu.edu and a reply will be sent within 24 hours. For more information about Deliberative Polling at Carnegie Mellon, as well as the events surrounding the upcoming Campus Conversation, please visit:

http://caae.phil.cmu.edu/cc/polls/

Again, please follow this link to register: http://alumni.cmu.edu/cc2.html

We hope to see you at 5 PM on November 14th!

Sincerely,

Ashley Birt
Coro Fellow in Local Democracy
Campus Conversations Project
abirt@andrew.cmu.edu
412.268.7641