



SERVICE LEARNING AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT THROUGH HIGHER EDUCATION

## **LAUREN SHINHOLSTER | MERCER UNIVERSITY**

# **ALL TOGETHER NOW: BUILDING ON THE COMMITMENT TO REACH FULL STUDENT VOTER PARTICIPATION THROUGH FACULTY ENGAGEMENT**

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### **ABSTRACT:**

SoCon Votes, the first Division 1 athletic conference championship for voting, catalyzed year-round student engagement in Mercer University's voter registration, education, and turnout activities. Eight years since the founding of the competition, Mercer is building on its commitment to reach full student voter participation by enhancing faculty involvement in the university's voter engagement plans. This poster provides an overview of our strategies for fostering faculty involvement, including coalition building, class presentations, and pledge-to-vote campaigns.

### **THEMATIC FOCUS: LEARNING THE CHORDS | PLAYING AROUND | SURPRISING COLLABORATIONS**

### **BIO(S):**

#### **LAUREN SHINHOLSTER**

Lauren Shinholster is the associate director of engaged learning at Mercer University. Lauren supports high-impact practices with a particular focus on service-learning courses and Research That Reaches Out, a blended practice of service and research. Before working at Mercer, Lauren was a community educator for the Safe Routes to School program at Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital. Arriving at Mercer in 2017, Lauren previously served as coordinator of community engagement, a role that bridged student affairs and academic life through the mentorship and oversight of student-led service and civic engagement programs.