

American Association of State Colleges and Universities

Delivering America's Promise



- Introduction:
 Marc Kruman
- Background and In Action: Renee Bricker
- What the Research Tells Us: Mike Stout

WHAT IS ECITIZENSHIP? AGENDA

Marc W. Kruman Wayne State University <u>m.kruman@wayne.edu</u>

Michael D. Stout Missouri State University Mstout@MissouriState.edu

Renee Bricker University of North Georgia <u>Renee.Bricker@ung.edu</u>

THE ECITIZENSHIP TEAM



eCitizenship

Background & IN ACTION

Virtual Citizenship + New Technologies >

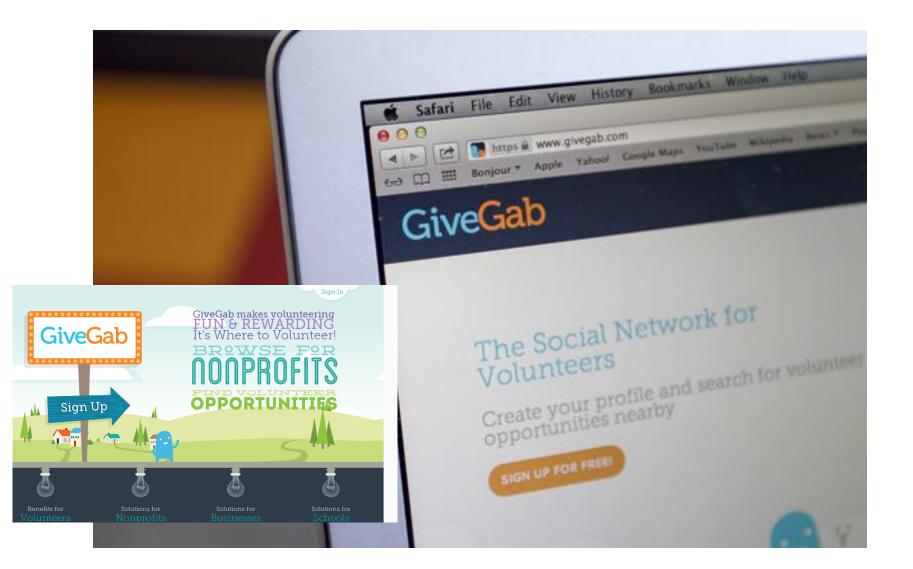


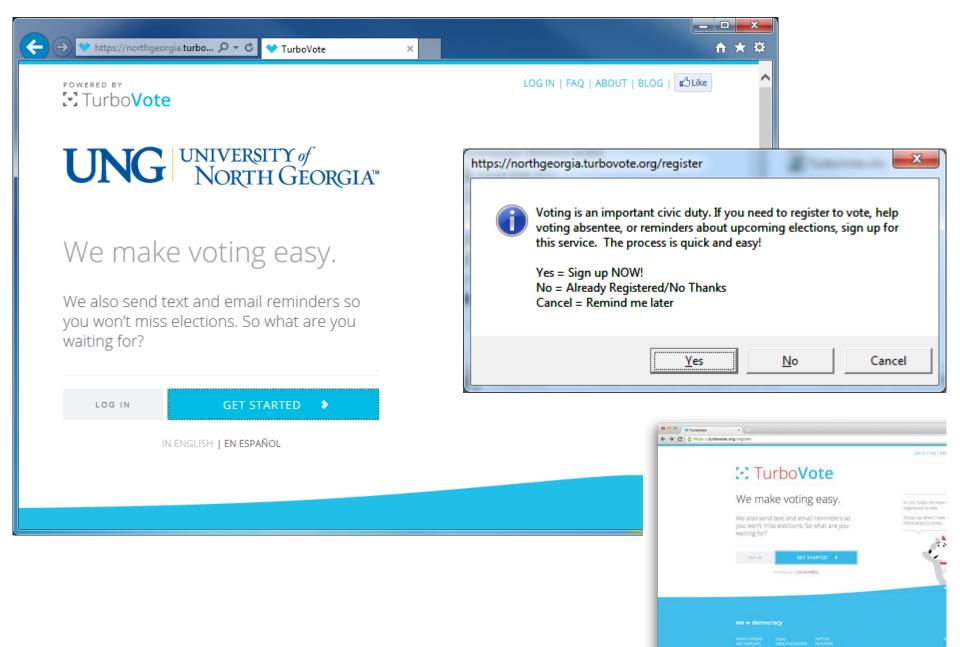
ON CAMPUS, IN ACTION











ECITIZENSHIP: WHAT DOES THE RESEARCH TELL US?

Social Networking and Social Media

- 72% of American internet users over the age of 18 use at least one social media site
 - 85% of Americans over the age of 18 use the internet.

(Brenner and Smith, 2013)

Demographics of Social Media Users

- 89% of internet users between the ages of 18 and 29 reported using social media
- Hispanics (80%) more likely to use social media sites than blacks (75%) or whites (70%)
- Not substantial differences in social media usage across levels of education or income (Brenner and Smith, 2013)

Types of Social Media Used

- 69% use Facebook (Rainey and Duggan, 2013)
- 20% use LinkedIn (Duggan & Brenner, 2012)
- 18% use Twitter (Brenner and Smith, 2013)

Social Media Has Had an Impact on the Internet and American Life

- Facebook revives "dormant" relationships
- average social media user has more close ties and is half as likely to be socially isolated than the average American
- Facebook users are more trusting than others, and they have more close relationships than other Americans
- Regular social media users get more support from their social ties, with Facebook users receiving the most support (Hampton et al, 2009; Hampton et al, 2011)

Social Media and Online Civic Participation

- During the 2008 election, 19% of internet users posted content about political or social issues using social media (Smith et al 2009)
- 37% of internet users aged 18-29 used blogs or social networking sites as a venue for political or civic involvement, compared to 17% of online 30-49 year olds, 12% of 50-64 year olds and 10% of internet users over 65

Social Media and Traditional Civic Participation

- social media users who are politically and civically active online are even more active in traditional forms of civic participation than those who do not use the internet at all (Smith et al 2009)
- 51% of those involved with a community or political group used digital tools such as e-mail and social media to communicate with the other members of the group (Smith et al 2009)

Social Media and the 2012 Election

- 39% of all American adults took part in some sort of political activity on a social networking site during the 2012 presidential campaign (Smith 2013)
- social media users say their activity on the sites has prompted them to learn more about social or political issues and to take action around those issues (Smith, 2013)

Social Media and Access to Information

- Americans are increasingly turning to the internet for access to news and information.
- There are generational differences in where Americans go to access news and information.
- People who access news and information online are likely to share information that is important to them through social media, thus raising awareness of the issue, and increasing opportunities to get actively involved.

Why Should We Care?

- Younger Americans are increasingly turning to the internet for their news and information about issues they care about
- They are using social media for expressing their views on public issues and for opportunities to participate in traditional civic engagement
- It's important for them to be able to critically evaluate the information they are accessing
- It's also important that we understand the potential impact this is having on the public sphere now and in the future (meet the students where they're at)

Webinar #2: Where do Students get their News and Why Does it Matter? 10/24/2013

Webinar #3: Shared Values and Collective Impact 12/5/2013

Webinar #4: Project Management for Student Leadership 1/23/2014

Webinar #5: Sustaining Student Leadership on Civic Engagement Projects 2/20/2014

SAVE THE DATES