

Imperial Valley College students prepare for upcoming election on Voter Registration Day



JOSELITO VILLERO PHOTO

National Voter Registration Day IVC

FROM LEFT: Students Acinorev Vega and Brianda Tirado fill out voter registration forms Tuesday during the National Voter Registration Day at Imperial Valley College in Imperial. Helping them are Associated Student Body junior senators Art Garcia and Ale Vasquez (partially hidden). JOSELITO VILLERO PHOTO Tuesday, September 23, 2014

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By **KARINA LOPEZ** | Staff Writer | **0 comments**

IMPERIAL — In order to fulfill their civic duty in the upcoming November election, students at Imperial Valley College took the time between classes and lunch breaks to register to vote during a Rock the Vote event at the local community college here Tuesday afternoon.

Held on National Voter Registration Day, the event was organized by the college's Associated Student Government, which hoped to not only allow students and community members the opportunity to register, but to share the importance of voting through video presentations.

Now in its third year, the national campaign has seen more than 350,000 people register on National Voter Registration Day through field and online efforts.

This year, more than 2,000 groups in all 50 states joined forces to celebrate National Voter Registration Day, which is the largest single-day effort of the year to register voters and involve them in the American political process, according to an organization press release.

Like most field stations across the United States, the college allowed students to register on hard copies or online. Brianda Tirado said she learned about the event through the college's website and decided there was no better time to register.

"This is an important time for us to vote because we'll be able to choose our representatives," said the 18-year-old in reference to the upcoming election, which includes the race for three seats on the Imperial Valley College Board of Trustees. "We want to have a voice and a say in what happens here."

Acinorev Vega agreed this was an important time for students to register and appreciated having the opportunity to do so at school.

"I'm glad they had it here because it was so much easier than going out and trying to do it yourself," said the 19-year-old.

Vega said she knows her civic duty is only partially complete until she casts her ballot Nov. 4.

"Yes, I do plan on voting because it'll be my first time," she said.

ASG Senator Alexis Soto said students responded well to the event, with the registration table having a continuous flow throughout the early afternoon.

"At this point we're not trying to hit a certain number of students who register, it's more about creating awareness," Soto said. "We've put up posters throughout the campus and on social media."

Oswaldo Cid said while he didn't come across the event until he saw it at the College Center he was happy to register and earn a small bag of free popcorn in the process.

"I saw it when I came in and just decided to register," he said. "It was an easy process."

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