Inspiring Passion for Public Service and Civic Engagement

SNAPSHOT

On Campus: The Institute of Politics, in collaboration with the Ash Center, leads the Harvard Votes Challenge, a campus-wide effort to achieve 100% voter participation at Harvard in the 2020 election.

In the World: Through a nonpartisan, quarterly journal and livestreams of Forum events, the dialogue and ideas generated at the IOP reach around the globe.

Institute of Politics

Vibrant societies require active, engaged citizens. The Institute of Politics ignites passion and appreciation for politics and public service through opportunities for civic participation and robust discourse, inspiring dialogue and debate across perspectives.

Promoting greater understanding and cooperation between academia and the world of politics and public affairs is vital to Harvard Kennedy School’s aim of encouraging emerging and established public leaders and engaged citizens to create a better world.
FROM THE DIRECTOR

“The Institute of Politics bridges the academy with practitioners to inspire Harvard students to public service and politics. Today’s IOP offers a rich array of experiential learning, exposure to ideas, and small group settings with prominent public servants, activists, journalists and thought leaders to consider the pressing issues of our time. Our students can hone their civic skills as they explore areas of interest to lead lives of consequence and a commitment to public purpose. They learn firsthand that politics matters. Our graduates leave prepared to make a difference as leaders in the United States and across the globe.”

Mark D. Gearan

The Work of the Institute of Politics

The Institute of Politics advances public service in real time both on campus and in the world through offerings including:

• **The John F. Kennedy Jr. Forum**: Harvard’s premier arena for political speech, discussion, and debate.

• **Harvard Youth Poll**: A biannual poll examining the political opinions and civic engagement of young Americans ages 18 to 29.

• **The Bipartisan Program for Newly Elected Members of Congress**: The preeminent educational and preparatory program for newly elected Republican and Democratic members of the House of Representatives.

• **Resident Fellows Program**: Each semester six fellows immerse themselves in the Harvard community by residing on campus, mentoring a cohort of undergraduate students, holding office hours, and leading study groups.

• Numerous other programs for Harvard undergraduates including summer internships, study groups, community action, and more.