



CenturyCollege

News Release

September 9, 2008
[Nancy Livingston](#)
Public Relations
651-779-3222
Fax 651-779-3470

[Century College](#)
3300 Century Avenue North
White Bear Lake, MN 55110

Minnesota Secretary of State Will Help Get Out the Vote at Century College Oct. 6

Minnesota Secretary of State Mark Ritchie will help register new and young voters at Century College in the West Campus cafeteria at noon on Monday, Oct. 6. Ritchie is supporting a final Century voter registration drive that will be held that day from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the cafeteria. The drive is a joint effort of the Century College Student Senate and the Minnesota Secretary of State's office.

In an unprecedented show of comprehensive support, the president of the Century Student Senate, the leadership of the faculty association and the acting president of the college sent a letter to all employees, urging them to support get-out-the-vote efforts across campus.

"Citizen participation is the key to keeping our communities and nation strong," said Secretary of State Ritchie. The Minnesota Secretary of State's office has a goal of achieving an 80 percent turnout of eligible voters in the 2008 general election on Nov. 4 so that Minnesota can once again lead the nation in voter turnout. The last time Minnesota had over 80 percent voter participation was in 1956.

As part of its "80 percent in '08" campaign, the Office of the Secretary of State is working to improve voter turnout among Minnesotans who face significant barriers to voting. This includes young adults who consistently have had the lowest rate of voter turnout in Minnesota. "In this sesquicentennial year,

this office is attempting to increase civic involvement among 18- to 29-year-olds through direct outreach to all Minnesota colleges and universities," said Ritchie.

The Secretary of State's office is also working to enhance voter participation among military and overseas voters, the disabled community through the Disability Advisory Committee, and a new "Vote in Honor of a Veteran" initiative to encourage first-time voters to exercise their right to vote.

Voters who are pre-registered will save time at the polls, even though Minnesota has a same-day voting law for persons with proper identification. New voters often don't know where to vote and the Minnesota

Secretary of State's office has a web site to help voters identify and find their correct polling location.

The Polling Place Finder web site is <http://pollfinder.sos.state.mn.us>.

The Century College Student Senate has held several voter registration drives on campus in advance of the Tuesday, Nov. 4, general election. This will be the final drive prior to the general election. The Student Senate is working to publicize the drive among students and members of the general public who have not yet registered or who have moved and need to re-register.

If you want more information on voting or on programs designed to provide transportation to voters with disabilities, please email the [Secretary of State's office](#) or call 651- 215-1440.

For more information about voter registration opportunities, please contact [John Aiken](#), [Rick Nelson](#) or [David Galchutt](#) or call 651- 247-6423.

The Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system also has an [election resource guide](#). The guide was created to assist new and returning voters in understanding the election process and to provide campus communities with information on the upcoming election. The site explains how to register to vote, provides information on local candidates and facts about the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system, lists election-related activities on the campuses and helps users locate their polling place.