The Gephardt Institute supports student learning, engagement, and leadership in civic life, all in one place. Ready to begin? Learn about our programs and resources that will enable you to take action and make an impact in St. Louis and beyond.

WAYS TO ENGAGE FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS

NEW IN THE LOU

The “New In the Lou” initiative invites you to explore St. Louis. Whether you’ve just arrived via Lambert International Airport or you’re a lifelong resident, there is much to learn and understand about this city and region. The New In the Lou video and accompanying online guide to being an engaged member of the St. Louis community are just the starting place for your civic learning and journey at WashU. Visit: gephardtinstitute.wustl.edu/new-in-the-lou

ENGAGE STL AND ENGAGE MO

Explore St. Louis neighborhoods and Missouri communities with your classmates. These immersive trips include guided tours throughout the region and state, while learning the history, traditions, challenges and opportunities that shaped our state and St. Louis community.

CIVIC ACTION WEEK

Civic Action Week is a weeklong initiative to highlight civic engagement opportunities throughout Washington University—in relationship with local community, campus partners, and beyond. All week across campus, faculty, staff, and community partners host events and other opportunities for impactful engagement. Check it out on Oct. 16-20, 2023!

Now accepting proposals for events. Student proposals are eligible to receive funding up to $500. Visit: gephardtinstitute.wustl.edu/CAW

GRAD STUDENTS VOTE

Interested in engaging fellow graduate and professional students in elections? Connect and organize by joining Grad Students Vote! This new committee will facilitate voter engagement through events, networking, canvassing, partnerships, and more. To get involved, email Alannah at aglickman@wustl.edu.
Join us for the premiere!

The LONGEST TABLE

Kick off the school year with 150+ students, faculty, and staff over a meal and civic dialogue. Create new community connections and engage with others around themed discussion prompts focused on sharing your civic story, experiences, co-imagining our shared future, and how to take action towards that vision. Join us Sept. 6, 4:30-6:30 p.m.

EVENT SERIES All students are welcome!

Civic Café is a weekly discussion series hosted every Tuesday at Stix House from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Students are invited to share a meal together and learn about civic topics from a community or campus expert. Each night will either be a Skill Building session, Democracy Dinner, or Civic Journey highlight. Graduate and undergraduate students of every discipline are invited to attend. Learn, eat, and meet other civically-minded individuals.

Food for Thought is a weekly pop-up event series curated by the Gephardt Institute. From 2 – 4 p.m. each Wednesday afternoon, students, staff, and faculty are invited to drop in for casual yet insightful conversations around the day’s theme. Each week features a different topic, many of which are co-hosted by a campus partner or student group. Local snacks are always provided. Locations vary, so follow us at @gephardtinstitute on Instagram to find us!

The Changemaker Series invites students to have a seat at the table with civic leaders from diverse sectors to connect, engage, and inspire, and inform your own civic journey. Each event highlights a WashU Alum's background, career path, and industry insights. Upcoming events can be found at: gephardtinstitute.wustl.edu/changemaker-series.

With the Graduate Impact Forum, engage in civic action and dialogue while networking with other graduate and professional students around local social issues. Events are typically in the evening with a networking happy hour, followed by a presentation and conversation. Events are not regularly scheduled, so please check for upcoming events at: gephardtinstitute.wustl.edu/graduate-impact-forum

Not sure where to start? Schedule an appointment with Student Engagement Specialist, Sophie Devincenti at sdevincenti@wustl.edu.