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Bob Graham Center to host statewide, student-led conference on the modernization of voter registration

GAINESVILLE, Fla.—The University of Florida’s Bob Graham Center for Public Service will host its second annual Robert A. Bryan Public Policy Summit Feb. 20-22 at Pugh Hall on the UF campus. The student-run conference calls on the brightest and most politically engaged students from across Florida to address critical issues facing our state.

A select group of students, from Florida’s colleges and universities, will convene at UF to discuss the modernization of voter registration. Students will explore the mechanisms of online voter registration, and develop an action plan for its promotion and implementation. Specifically, conversations will focus on advocacy tools, coalition building, lobbying and messaging.

Keynote speakers for the weekend program will include elected officials, lobbyists and educators from across the state. Confirmed speakers include:

- Diedre Macnab, president, League of Women Voters of Florida;
- Kamal Latham, vice president for public policy, Gainesville Area Chamber of Commerce;
- Mike Burns, national director, Fair Elections Legal Network’s Campus Vote Project;
- Vinny Foster, state director, Generation Opportunity;
- Victoria Kirby, national regional hub director, Organizing for Action (OFA) Florida;
- Wes Jones, vice president and national canvass director, Grassroots Campaigns;
- Pegeen Hanrahan, former mayor of Gainesville and deputy director of the “Yes on 1” campaign; and
- Ray Seaman, online director, Progress Florida and organizer of “Yes for Marion Schools” initiative.

The goals of the program are to: establish a tradition of statewide intercollegiate political activism; educate students about the pressing issues facing the state; develop the competencies necessary for effective citizenship; inspire students to seek solutions to complex challenges; and promote the free exchange of ideas across the ideological spectrum.

For more information on the Future of Florida Public Policy Summit visit our website at www.bobgrahamcenter.ufl.edu/futureoffloridasummit.