

Hello Professor Moody,

I am interested in exploring the thoughts of the Appalachian State student body during the final part of a dialogue series titled “Elections Unmasked: Moving Forward Together: Bridging Divides Post-Election”. This session will focus on healing divisions within the campus community post-election, fostering constructive dialogue, and promoting unity and collaboration regardless of political differences.

I plan to attend the session and interview other attendees about their thoughts on divisions within our campus community post-election. I also plan to interview the Community-Engaged Leadership, who is hosting the event, about the desired outcomes of the dialogue series.

Republicans and Democrats are more divided along ideological lines than ever in the last two decades. According to Pew Research Center, Americans who express consistently conservative or consistently liberal opinions have doubled over the past two decades from 10% to 21%. Ideological thinking is also more closely aligned with partisanship than in the past. As a result, ideological overlap between the two parties has diminished. But what does this look like for students at Appalachian State? Are students with opposing political views able to overlook their stance to remain friends with students in the opposing party?

Thank you for taking the time to read through my pitch.

Cariline Lampe