

Poll of Presidential Support

Week of: February 21st

	Supports	Not Registered to Vote	Would Not Support Another Candidate Of Same Party	Probably Would Not Support A Candidate of Same Party
Bernie Sanders	182	94	41	19
Hillary Clinton	4	1	2	
Ted Cruz	2	1		
Donald Trump	8	5	3	
Marco Rubio	5	1		
Other	16	7		
Undecided	35	26		
None	17	15		
Total	269	105	46	19

NOTES

This poll was conducted in-person at various times and locations throughout the Fredonia campus. Persons were polled at random, and no person was polled twice. No priority was given to the pollster's friends, acquaintances, or colleges, and no responses were collected online. Although Bernie was expected to come out on top simply because of the apparent political climate at Fredonia, the magnitude of support for him versus the other candidates was surprising. Equally unexpected was the fact that over half of all Bernie supporters are not currently registered to vote, although a good portion indicated that they had plans to do so. Of special note is that among the 'Other' category, although two individuals did indicate support for the Libertarian Party candidate Gary Johnson, the rest of the responses were either for Vermin Supreme (3), or Deadpool (11).

After speaking with the Fredonia Democrats and Republicans last week, I wanted to find how closely Fredonia students aligned with the the clubs' perceptions of them. At first glance, Democrat President and Senior Political Science major Delia Napolitano's assertion that "our campus tends to be more liberal", definitely matched student responses. Napolitano's group endorsed Bernie Sanders because they "had no students (zero) approach us with an interest in supporting Hillary", and although there were a few Hillary supporters to be found on campus, Bernie is clearly crushing it.

Although I was expecting to find a huge swath of Bernie supporters at Fredonia, I wasn't expecting to find that so many students are not registered to vote, and that many expressed no desire to register despite strongly supporting a specific candidate. Although the idea of a political revolution is one that has found extreme resonance among Fredonia students, it's unlikely to pan out without an actual presence at the polls. I was also taken aback by the extremely harsh response often garnered when I asked students if they would support Hillary if Bernie did not win the Democratic primary. Although many said that they would only support her if Trump were the Republican nominee, even more expressed a complete distaste for Hillary, expressing beliefs that she is corrupt, influenced by corporate donors, and untrustworthy. Although the majority of Bernie supporters on campus had no problem with supporting Hillary should she secure the nomination, the significant number of Bernie supporters who would rather abstain from voting may cause a problem for the Democrats should Hillary secure the nomination.