INTERVIEW PROTOCOL for “Engaging Across Difference” project

1. To what extent do you value interacting and engaging in conversation with people whose backgrounds or beliefs might differ from your own? Why?

1. To what extent has being at Middlebury allowed you to have these sorts of interactions--both inside and outside of the classroom? (please explain)
2. Can you describe a situation when you had a difficult conversation across difference that contributed to your growth and/or learning?
3. Can you describe a situation where such a conversation was not as productive--e.g., when felt that you weren’t heard, or when you had a difficult time listening to others?
4. What conditions need to be in place for you to feel that your voice is heard in difficult conversations across difference at Middlebury?
5. When might you struggle to listen openly in those conversations, and what conditions can help you to be a better listener?
6. What could Middlebury College do to encourage more difficult conversations across difference, both inside and outside the classroom?

1. What efforts (if any) do you make on your own to engage with people who have different political viewpoints from yours?
2. Has your conception of Middlebury as community changed since your time at the college? And does this affect your thoughts on engaging difficult conversations?

1. What else would you like to share about your experiences engaging across difference at Middlebury?