

THE
STONY
BROOK

PRESS

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Election Special

This questionnaire was distributed on 3/13/90. At Presstime candidacies had not been validated by the Election Board. Questionnaires were made available to every nominee. Those that did not respond are simply listed.

President

1. Describe yourself.

Sean Joe

I am diligent, an extrovert, vocal, confident, and unafraid. These qualities translate into someone who will not hesitate to vocalize the students' concerns to the administration of this school.

Mike Lapushner

I am Michael Lapushner, a junior from Brooklyn. I am a hardworking, dedicated student.

Liam McGrath

I'm able to be my own person and still be accepted by a wide variety of people; I'm hardworking and energetic; I'm knowledgeable and always willing to learn; I'm an effective speaker and an even better listener; and I'm running for Polity President.

Dan Slepian

I am a student who is simply trying to make a difference for the betterment of other students.

2. Why are you running?

Sean Joe

I am running to eradicate the bureaucracy of the Polity suite and bring the concerns of the student body to the forefront. I believe that I have proven myself in the various campus communities and I am skilled enough to negotiate the students' concerns efficiently.

Mike Lapushner

My experience as a student and as a member of Polity led me to believe that Polity should be an enjoyable experience for all students. I would like to make the students aware of issues that affect them and insure that their concerns are brought to the

administration unedited! I feel that Polity President should be about the students and not the administrative power.

Liam McGrath

First, I see the position as an opportunity to push for things that need doing around campus to get accomplished. Through different activities I've been involved in at Stony Brook, I've gained a good overall perspective of what the University and Polity should be providing the students. I've also been able to see how things function through committee chair-work I've done through the Polity Senate.

More important, though, I truly enjoy working in the student government. This is for two reasons - I get a lot of satisfaction knowing that I'm doing my share to help the campus, and I also enjoy working with many of the people involved in the different aspects of Polity.

Dan Slepian

I am running because I feel that I am the best person for the position of President. It will not take me six months to learn my position as I have been involved with Polity for two years now. I will start working for the students from day one. I am running for the students - not for myself.

3. What qualifications do you possess?

Sean Joe

As a Polity Senator for Toscanini College, I have initiated discussion on various academic and residential issues with my outspoken demeanor. In my term I have initiated the Senate's first Academic Committee. I am also the current President of the UNITI Cultural Center - this position

has acquainted me with and allowed me to work with various administrators, from the President down. They are familiar with me and now my tough stance on controversial issues. I am also the Vice-President of the African American Student Organization (AASO). My experience as an office assistant with Campus Residences will prove valuable when I'm negotiating the concerns of my peers.

Mike Lapushner

I am presently involved with Polity; I am a Junior Representative at the present time. I am extensively involved with the Student Activity Board and the Minority Planning Board. Also I am a Polity Senator. I have dealt with Administration before and I am prepared to go head to head with them if necessary.

Liam McGrath

Foremost among my activities this year has been my job as a Polity Senator. In October, I chaired the Cable TV Committee in charge of education on that issue, which went to referendum last semester. Based on my work then, I was selected to be chair of the Senate's Coca-Cola Educational Committee, in charge of education about one of this semester's most controversial items up for referendum. I have also been a member of the Senate's Academic Affairs Committee since its inception earlier this year.

But the Senate is not the only part of campus life in which I've participated. In addition to working at an off-campus job for up to 30 hours a week, I've been involved in campus media, sports, residence life, and daycare volunteering at points during my two years at Stony Brook. This has not only allowed me to improve my time-management skills, but

also to develop an understanding of the different obstacles students and groups must overcome in order to achieve their interests.

One of my chief qualifications, I consider, is that I am able to grasp all the angles of complex issues and then handle them correctly. This is done through remembering that it is the students that Polity works for, so priorities must be set carefully and realistically. This does not mean they should be set conservatively, though, merely that goals should be adhered to, so Polity can be seen as a reliable organization.

Dan Slepian

I was Freshman Representative my first year and I am now Vice-President of Polity. I feel that experience is an important quality to have to be President of this, or any corporation. I have gotten many different things accomplished this year, and if elected, will definitely continue to do so. I also sit on the FSA and I am a Univ. Senator.

4. What is the single major problem that confronts residential students? Com-muters?

Sean Joe

I do not believe that there is a single problem that we as students have to face. As students we are bombarded with a variety of problems: Undergraduate food services, escalating housing fees, the parking fee, academic stagnation, and the Stony Brook curse, APATHY. We must voice our concerns and establish an adequate student Polity that will

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demand participation in the decisions that affect our lives.

Mike Lapushner

APATHY! And parking - probably the greatest problems confronting students. I am going to do whatever it takes to win over the difficulties.

Liam McGrath

Other than the issues concerning all Stony Brook students, commuters or residents, the biggest problem facing campus residents is the condition of the dormitories. Too much of dorm life at Stony Brook has a demoralizing effect on residents. This is especially true of the meal plan and cooking systems. Too often a student on the meal plan is racing the clock to spend money on food that isn't worth it in the first place; those who pay the cooking fee are often worse off, due to lack of space or facilities, or poor facilities. In both cases, students are just not getting what they're paying for.

Commuters have a hard enough time coming to the University each day. The parking and bus system do not help the situation. South P Lot users have an especially trying situation, because of the distance from the campus center. The most realistic ways to combat these problems are to increase the frequency and reliability of the campus buses and to make sure that our entire campus transportation system - including the roads and lots - is improved without any parking fee being imposed.

Dan Slepian

The single major problem for residents is not staying on campus enough, and the single major problem for commuters is leaving after their academic day, which is no fault of their own because there is usually nothing

to do. We are initiating a program called "Campus Lifetime". This will be a period in the middle of the day when no classes are scheduled. This will give students an opportunity to interact together outside of the classroom. This will be in effect Spring 1991.

5. What is your stance on the Coca-Cola referendum?

Sean Joe

I am strongly in favor of the ban of Coca-Cola and its' products. I am firmly against any oppressive system or body that supports the genocide of people of African descent.

Mike Lapushner

Apartheid is a grave injustice and any organization or entity that promotes racial discrimination should definitely not be supported.

Liam McGrath

When the issue came before the senate in November, I was among the Senators who voted to recommend to the FSA the banning of Coke. After that motion was recinded and the vote was given to the general student body on the upcoming referendum, I was assigned the chair of the Coca-Cola Educational Committee. After months of gathering information and opinions from both sides, my feelings remain the same. Coca-Cola and other companies should withdraw completely from South Africa negatively will lead to positive change- the end of apartheid. As long as Coke remains, in whatever form, in South Africa, it should be banned on campus.

Dan Slepian

From the information that I have heard, I would be in favor of any steps that we can take, as college students, to add to the movement to end the gross injustice of Apartheid.

6. Are you supporting any other candidates for any other office? Who and why or why not?

Sean Joe

I am not supporting any other candidate for any other office. It is my belief that we have some very fine candidates in the upcoming election. I choose, though, not to support any of them because I am not trying to put any single person into office, I am running to put all of the students into office.

Mike Lapushner

Joe Mignon for Vice-President. Joe's extensive working knowledge of Polity is going to be invaluable to the student body. Mike Halkitis for secretary, his leadership abilities and honesty will help Polity attain its' goals. Dave Reynolds for Senior Representative, his managerial skill will enable him to mobilize the student leaders to work at their full potential.

Liam McGrath

No. Though I've enjoyed working with many of the people who are running for spots this election period, I feel more comfortable remaining independent. That way, I feel, no matter what the result, I will go into next year with "no strings attached" and be able to deal with everyone working in student government on an equal basis.

Dan Slepian

No, I am not.

7. What are the major problems students have with Polity and how do you plan to solve them?

Sean Joe

The major problem that students have with Polity is that there is a severe lack of communication between the two entities. Thus, students are unable to voice their concerns because they cannot identify with their leaders. Polity also has not involved itself with genuine concerns of students, from academics to financial concerns, I plan on establishing a mechanism that will allow the students to bring their academic, financial, residential and social concerns to the attention of their elected officials. I will take the time to initiate efforts to help alleviate these concerns. I also plan to use the three campus newspapers to relay as much news relating to Polity issues as possible to you, the students.

Mike Lapushner

Communication. The students are not familiar with resources that Polity has to offer. I am going to open doors to all students so they can utilize Polity to its' fullest.

Liam McGrath

I think Polity is not thought of enough as a general resource by students. Instead, it seems, Polity is viewed solely as a place that clubs and other organizations obtain money from. While this is obviously an important part of the student government's duty, more attention should be directed to improving the general welfare of Stony Brook Students.

The Academic Affairs Committee is an excellent example of how this can be done. By attacking issues that are created by a university's purpose - to provide as productive a learning environment as possible - the committee adds credibility to all of Polity.

Also, the links between Polity and other important organizations are in many cases very weak. This leads in some cases to unnecessary and inefficient competition. These ties must be strengthened, so all groups on campus can work in an atmosphere of more cooperation.

Dan Slepian

The major problem students have with Polity is that they do not know what it is, or what it does. This year, I think that we (Polity members) took a couple of steps forward in opening up Polity to more students. Initiating more committees, writing letters, and circulating a Polity newsletter might help this problem.

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8.What do you feel will be the major issues in the upcoming year?

Sean Joe

Every issue that confronts the students is a major one, but there are a few that deserve special attention. The food services contract, housing increases, the parking fee, establishing various social outlets, curriculum diversification and campus unifications are important issues that students will have to face in the upcoming year.

Mike Lapushner

The DAKA contract is up and as President I will fight for the best alternative. The parking problem on this campus has to be taken care of. The students should not be suffering and worrying about parking when they have enough things in school to be concerned about.

Liam McGrath

I think emphasis should be placed on diversifying the curriculum, especially the core. There has been a great deal of praise, all with good reason, given to the different groups among students, faculty, and administration that have helped promote the ethnic and cultural diversification of this campus. But it is important to realize that without expanding the core curriculum from its traditional Western history and culture base, then the primary vehicle the University has to promote our diversity and heighten awareness will go unused. This expansion should include the upgrading of the AFS program to a department and the maintenance of other courses and programs.

Dan Slepian

The major issues will be campus safety (again and still), DAKA, and programming concerts and activities in the new fieldhouse. (The new fieldhouse will seat 5,100 people)

9.To what extent do you think Polity should be concerned with outside politics?

Sean Joe

It is very important for Polity to be concerned with outside politics. Polity should try to promote social consciousness with vigor. It is hard for Polity to take itself out of the political when every issue we have to face are of direct consequence from the outside world. Polity is the student voice, and an advocate for our education. Our education is dependant on the various political issues of the nation.

Mike Lapushner

To a great extent. Since this is a State University the political

policies made outside on a state and federal level affects the students greatly, and as a student I am looking out for our best interests.

Liam McGrath

We, as college students, are in some ways insulated from the "real world". But in many other ways, that is simply not true, especially since Stony Brook is a state school. For example, we are affected by New York State deficit and with the inevitable budget cuts that follow it- witness last year's near-tuition increase and this year's proposed parking fee. How could we not get involved?

Also, most college students are of voting age, so it would be unrealistic to expect no interest in world issues. In fact, college may be the time when people are more informed about their current issues than any other time in life.

In short- we should have as much interest in "outside" politics as we need to.

Dan Slepian

Polity should be absolutely, 100% concerned with outside politics. In fact, we are attempting to have a massive voter registration next year during room selection. If we get enough people, we could have our own voting district here and really make politicians listen.

10.From where do you get your political inspiration?

Sean Joe

I draw my political inspiration from my everyday life as a student of this university. I experience the problems that are thrown upon students and I realized that I can have a positive influence in Polity and establish the groundwork for a student government that will reestablish the principle that an institution of higher education is for the student population.

Mike Lapushner

I am not a politician, I am a STUDENT for the STUDENTS!

Liam McGrath

I admire both Martin Luther King, Jr., and John F. Kennedy for their leadership ability and their capacity to inspire hope in people. Otherwise, I have no political "heroes", only the example of my parents and others who I admire for their ability to set priorities and then stick to them, even when a cause is unpopular or a goal is difficult to attain.

Dan Slepian

The pretzel man.

Vice President

1. Why are you running and what are your qualifications?

Joe Mignon

Ben Katz

Seth Hopkins

Since my freshman year I have been an active and involved student at Stony Brook. Living in Hamilton College, I first became involved with the Building Leg as a Polity Senator. Working for the Orientation Program over the past three years; two as a Summer Leader and currently as an Administration and of all the Faculty/ Student organizations. I have dealt with representatives from Undergraduate Studies, Public Safety, FSA, Daka, Student Polity and Student Affairs. Most importantly everyday I deal with students. I believe that my past experience indicates that I am a sincerely active student and I feel that I am most qualified to represent the needs of our student body.

2.Are you supporting any other candidates for any other office?

Joe Mignon

Ben Katz

Seth Hopkins

The most qualified candidate for President is Dan Slepian. For the past two years I have known Dan to be a highly motivated and energetic individual. His record speaks for itself as Freshman Rep., Polity Vice-Pres., and as an active member of FSA Board. Most recently for commuters, Dan was a force behind the installation of 'blue light' phones in South P Lot; and for campus students Dan initiated the shuttle Bus to Carringtons. These are but two small examples of his dedication and commitment to the Stony Brook Community.

3.What are the major problems the average student has with Polity and how do you plan to solve them?

Seth Hopkins

In order to increase the awareness of the student body to how Polity affects their lives everyday, I believe that we should have a publication that keeps students up to date with what Polity and their activity fee is doing for them. If students learn more about Polity and what it does they will be encouraged to become more involved. A newsletter will help bridge the gap between Polity and students.

4.What do you feel will be the major issues concerning students in the upcoming

school year?

Seth Hopkins

Early in September Stony Brook will hold christening ceremonies for the new field house. Seating over 5,000 people it will become the largest arena in Suffolk County and therefore provide the opportunity for Stony Brook to play host to many large scale events including major concerts and comedians. I fully support the Student Activity Board in their broadening endeavors.

I feel that campus food services will continue to be a primary issue which will require diligent improvement and supervision.

An issue that has lacked proper attention in all my years at Stony Brook is the placement of its graduates into any level of employment. Although we offer a career development office its size and staff are grossly inadequate for the numbers of students that graduate from Stony Brook every year. Students constantly complain about how they get turned away from the career development office because their waiting list is too long! Other SUNY institutions coordinate job placement fairs that provide a forum for graduating students to meet with potential employers and investigate career opportunities in certain fields. What's wrong with S.B.? Stony Brook's location and proximity to the metropolitan tri-state area, in itself could provide excellent opportunities for both employers and future employees, namely us- the Stony Brook Student! We must take advantage of this potential and improve the job placement facilities on this campus!

Parking on campus continues to be grossly inadequate. Students and faculty are riddled with tickets, many received even though a parking sticker was present. Expanded parking lots will be needed, especially if this campus plans to grow.

Secretary

1.Why are you running and what are your qualifications?

Mike Halkitis

I am running for secretary because over the past three years, I have become disgusted with the state of the Stony Brook community.

Michael Pilla

I am running for the office of secretary because I would like to do my share in the student government to make Stony Brook University a better place to go to. I am currently Treasurer of

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Human Rights or Good Soda? by Drew E. Mitty

Before an emotional crowd of about 125 S.B. students, the Coke boycott question was fiercely debated between two polarized organizations, College Republicans and ROAR (Rightfully opposed to Apartheid and Racism.)

The issue of banning Coke from the Stony Brook campus was no stranger to the partisan audience, clearly in favor of boycotting Coke products from dormitory machines, FSA concessions, and Meal Plan contracts.

The evening began with a prepared speech from the newly formed United Nations Association. Their first major project was the formal debate between the boycott proponents, principally ROAR and Blackworld; and the ban's opponents, the College Republicans. Representing the ROAR coalition were Theresa White, Dannielle Brown, and Randy Campbell. The Republicans countered with Ronald Nehring, Caris Supevelde, and Richie Guillermo.

UNA president Jennifer Damon stated the purpose of her organization as serving a dual function. "We want to foster awareness on campus of international social issues, and amalgamate a diverse student body on this campus." UNA wishes to realize the goal of "Transferring beliefs into action," Damon said. Damon also

spoke briefly on the responsibility of students to familiarize themselves with the pertinence of geopolitical events or their own lives.

Two executive officers from UNA, Shahid Khan and Shilipi Sinha, moderated the debate. However, the two found it an arduous task to control the volatile audience. Khan explained "The audience was very one-sided (pro-boycott), and I think the atmosphere was unprofessional because it's a new thing, this was a dress rehearsal for us. We hope to improve."

The two sides opened up with statements synthesizing their respective arguments. ROAR project coordinator Theresa White explained, "Coke hasn't truly divested in South Africa. Coke's economic concessions in South Africa are a pathetic attempt to cover up their willful support of Apartheid and racism." She cited corporate and sales taxes in excess of \$60 million paid to the white government as evidentiary of Coke's failure to aid oppressed South African blacks.

College Republican President Ron Nehring stressed their primary reason for opposition to the campus Coke ban as being the arbitrary removal of freedom of choice. Nehring named the blame for this action on the part of a small minority of individuals active in

student Polity and the Coke issue itself. Nehring stated "S.B. is a public institution. It is a fundamental right in the free market to choose products like Coca-Cola. In my opinion, Coke does not contribute to Apartheid in South Africa." Nehring's initial viewpoint was immediately greeted with boos and hisses by a hostile crowd who often deliberately interrupted College Republican speakers in mid-sentence.

The UNA moderators posed open-ended questions to both factions. In response to the question, "How does the Coke ban apply to helping black South Africa?", ROAR President Dannielle Brown said that "US companies in S. Africa directly support Apartheid because they do in fact pay millions of dollars in taxes to the government. If people on this campus are aware of the boycott and what it represents, they will definitely support the ban." This was further emphasized by ROAR representative Randy Campbell who described the boycott of Coke as simply "Politically correct."

Nehring and the College Republicans tried to focus the Coke issue on the principal that boycotting the soft drink is a violation of our constitutional rights as Americans; "By taking Coke off campus, we're only choking our own inalienable rights. It's freedom of choice to be able to buy Coke if you want."

Nehring criticized ROAR and other Coke ban proponents as losing sight of the task at hand by taking advantage of a politically charged issue, that using hype to sway people rather than cogent arguments. "If you take Coke out of South Africa, you're only hurting black South Africans who work in Coke plants. It's also not true that Coke has not helped South African blacks. They donated \$10 million dollars to the Equal Opportunity Fund to help with the progress of a post-Apartheid South Africa."

Campbell of ROAR countered "I see Coke as giving token blood money and not looking at the real problem. Besides, only 1% of employees in the American plants in S. Africa are black. You (Nehring) say we have no freedom of choice, the choice is we have no choice but to ban Coke." Nehring implored students to write their congressmen and senators as the way to affect change, labeling the Coke ban "an irrational thing."

Both groups consistently dodged the question posed by the moderator in their own interest of pontificating on their pet subject. Time limits were difficult to enforce because of the impromptu comments of the audience and heated nature of the debate. The ROAR spokespeople did not accept the College Republicans' early semester poll of students' reaction to a ban as legitimate.

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leg. at Langmuir College where my colleagues and I have made great progress in the spring semester of 1990. The job as treasurer is where I first had a "taste" of what Polity is about.

Lee Wiedel

I am running because I believe that should be more involved in student government, and as secretary, I will work to develop better communication between the various student groups on campus and a sense of community among students.

My leadership experiences include the following:

I've been a Polity senator for almost two years.

I am both founder and president of the Religious Studies Organization, which is dedicated toward giving students a better understanding of different religious groups.

Founder and President of the Kendo Club, a group dedicated to the practice of the Japanese martial art of Kendo.

As a commuting student, I have previously held positions as assistant treasurer, and

treasurer, and am currently the vice president of commuter college.

Based on my previous experience and dedication I have shown in the past situations, I am confident that I will make a good secretary. Together, we can make our student government something to be proud of. Thank you.

2. How will you enhance the work of Polity?

Mike Halkitis

Through experience, dedication, and, know how, I will attempt to make Polity more effective than ever.

Michael Pilla

I will do my best to enhance the work at Polity by being dedicated to the job's criteria. I will also try to offer my own ideas and thoughts on the subject matters that Polity has to offer.

Lee Wiedel

I will enhance the working of

Polity by encouraging programs during the day-time hours so that more commuters may be more part of the campus community and engage in campus activities. I will also encourage the various student groups to try to work together on joint projects. This maximizes the individual efforts of the various groups and makes for better and more popular programs.

These are only a few I feel I will enhance the work of Polity. I feel that with my experience and dedication I will make a good Secretary.

Senior Rep.

1. Why are you running and what are your qualifications?

David Reynolds

Basically, I am running so I breathe life back into the Stony Brook Community and hopefully create unity among the students.

Alyson Gill

I am interested in diversifying the council so that it better reflects the student body and the constituency that I will represent. In the past I have worked on various projects in student and local government. I am currently Secretary for both the Center for Women's Concerns and the French Club, I also have worked with NYPIRG. I am one of the leading organizers for the campus-wide event of Rape Awareness Week (April 16-19).

Craig Wennen

I would like to become more involved in student government and would like to see Stony Brook become a more enjoyable place for all students.

I have been in the Polity Senate for two years. I was Senator for Kelly E in the fall of '88, and became a Commuter Senator in the spring of '89. I have been a Commuter Senator since.

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2. Are you supporting any other candidates for any other office? Who and why or why not?

David Reynolds

I am supporting Mike Halkitis for Secretary, but I have no true favorites because I am more than willing to work with other people and hopefully create a healthy working environment for Polity and the students.

Alyson Gill

No I am not.

Craig Wennet

I am supporting Dan Slepian for President. I knew him when he was a class rep. and when he became vice-president, he turned the senate around 180 degrees for the better.

3. What is the single most important issue facing students, both commuters and residents?

David Reynolds

Unity—there is power in numbers, once the Stony Brook community is unified, we can all work together to solve our problems.

Alyson Gill

It's hard to single out one issue when there is such diversity in the university, however safety on the campus has to be top priority, for many the idea of walking G and H to Kelly at would be crazy and to me campus should be readily accessible to all members of the university community.

Craig Wennet

There are many important issues such as living conditions, Public Safety, student parking, and lack of school spirit. The biggest issue right now, however, is the proposed parking fee that will affect both commuters and residents.

4. What important issues face your class?

David Reynolds

I think there's a real need to increase the interest level of the students in the Stony Brook community. We should make people proud to go here! Not wish they were attending some other "Big Name" school. This school is on the uprise, if we work it right this school and its students can reach heights never before dreamed of.

Alyson Gill

To many seniors the concept of that one forgotten core course is

frightening, one issue of great importance is the easy access of information pertaining to graduation requirements also if I were senior class representative I would sponsor a forum welcoming national graduate level admissions officers to provide information on their different programs.

Craig Wennet

Basically the same issues that apply to all students apply to my class as well. I want to make it a great year for those graduating.

Junior Rep.

1. Why are you running and what are your qualifications?

Karen Wilson

I am a part of the University community and feel strongly that my voice as a concerned student on behalf of my fellow classmates deserves to be heard. My qualifications arise from having held membership and leadership roles in other organizations and volunteer groups. I have a good understanding of how to be an effective member of any governing organization.

Thomas Pye

I'm running for Junior Class Rep. My qualifications include being Vice-President and President of Student Council in my high school. I'm presently the Sophomore Class Rep. and over the past year I've learned a great deal about the workings of Polity. I hope to apply this experience towards another successful year.

Sharon Shalit

I am running for Junior Representative in order to provide my class with proper leadership. I feel there is a need for unification of students and this can not be accomplished without adequate acknowledgement. I am very motivated and enthusiastic about this election and hope you will support me.

2. Are you supporting any other candidates for any other office? Who and why or why not?

Karen Wilson

Secretary - Lee Weidl
President - Liam McGrath
V. President - Joe Mignon
SB Council - Glenn Magpantay
Judiciary - 1. Marlene LaRose
2. Addie Neckles
Senior Rep. - Allyson Gill
Soph. Rep. - Maxine Douglass

These are the people who I think are best qualified to serve the school community in these leadership positions.

Thomas Pye

Yes, I'm supporting Dan Slepian for President. My reasons revolve around his two years of experience in Polity. Also, I feel Dan has done phenomenal work in bringing more respect to Polity in the eyes of administrators so that administrators listen to our needs as students.

Sharon Shalit

Although there are many qualified candidates, I am not currently supporting a particular one. I feel there is a need for radical changes and whoever is elected must be willing to accommodate these needs.

3. What is the single most important issue facing students, both commuters and residents?

Karen Wilson

The single most important issue we all face is the increasing cost of education and the major deficit in state budget facing potential tuition increase and cuts in major financial programs.

Thomas Pye

It seems presently the big issue is the ban on Coca-Cola. There are many people who feel strongly for the ban as well as those who oppose the ban. I feel the referendum should rectify the situation and decide the issue.

Sharon Shalit

A major problem faced by both commuters and residents as well as faculty are the proposed budget cuts. This would result in a decrease in course offerings and maintenance in the dorms as well as many other issues.

4. What important issues face your class?

Karen Wilson

The important issues we face are of course potential tuition increase considering the fact that we still have two undergraduate years to go through. The potential imposition of increased parking fees create no improvement of the parking conditions we presently endure. The threat that the AFS department face is also an issue of great concern amongst the Afro-American students of my class. Many students are also concerned about the restricted library hours and would like to see them increased.

Thomas Pye

Important issues for the Junior Class revolve a lot around academic,

because it's one of the hardest years of our collegiate career. The newly formed Senate Committee dealing with Academic Affairs will help immensely in narrowing the gap between professors and students. Another issue is social activities for Juniors. It seems as Juniors were left out in the cold with activities, the Seniors get Senior Week, the Freshman get their programs during the year. I feel more should be done for Juniors. I plan next year to work on a Junior Trip and other incentives for Juniors to benefit from the Student Activity Fee money.

Sharon Shalit

A major issue concerning my class is the lack of knowledge and lack of interest among the students. As a representative I intend to inform my classmates on Polity and its function as an organization "for" the students. I also hope to instigate some widespread unification of our diverse student body. Each student is a unique individual with unique ideas. As a representative I would attempt to hear these thoughts and apply them to the decision-making of our school. This would allow more students, through me, to voice their opinions and interests.

Sophomore Rep.

1. Why are you running and what are your qualifications?

Paul Miller

I am running for Soph. Rep because I feel that Stony Brook is a school that allows a lot of student involvement and I would like to take advantage of that. I would also like to see more students involved in the programs on campus. I am quite involved with Polity as a Senator and I sit on the Program Services Council.

Maxine Douglass

My reason for running for Soph. Rep. is that I feel that Sophomore students need an adequate channel to address issues that affect them. They, like all other students, need to participate in the Stony Brook political arena. It is only when students of all year groups come together in collective discourse that the needs of all students will be met. I have the experience and motivation to ensure that the needs of Soph. students are addressed. Advocating for students is what I do best, and this is the reason I wish to run.

Christine Tracy

Basically, I chose to run for Soph. Rep. because I have been a Senator for almost two semesters through which I have gained much

Poll Shows Students Favor Ban

by Drew Mitty

On March 8-9, The Press interviewed 510 Stony Brook students on how they expect to vote in the upcoming referendum for banning of Coke products from the SUSB campus. The results were as follows:

266 students support the Coke Boycott (52%)

128 students oppose the Coke Boycott (25%)

116 students were undecided on the issue (23%)

510 students were polled (463 undergraduates and 47 graduate students)

The referendum will be held March 20th concurrent with Polity elections and other referendums regarding Specula, Statesman, SPA, Ice Hockey, COCA, NYPIRG and SASU.

If statistics are an accurate barometer of students' voting habits, Coke machines could fast become extinct on Stony Brook turf.

Originally, the impetus for an anti-Coke campaign began on private college campuses in Massachusetts three years ago. Not until this past fall semester did Stony Brook students mobilize a campaign to boycott Coca-Cola's economic involvement and indirect support of the Apartheid government in South Africa. The project has been headed by ROAR (Rightfully Opposed to Apartheid and

Racism) coalition. Other active proponents of the campus-wide boycott include Blackworld and NYPIRG. Undoubtedly, the heavy distribution of anti-Coke literature and posters throughout the campus have successfully influenced a great majority of Stony Brook students. In addition, a ROAR table in the Union has been a mainstay since last semester. Theresa White, a National Student Exchange participant from Cal State - Chico, has assumed a leadership role in the Coke ban and has effectively communicated ROAR's position through Student Polity and local campus publications.

Generally, students responding to the poll had a limited understanding of Coca-Cola's actual role in upholding or denouncing the institution of Apartheid. One student said, "Coke's getting boycotted. Well, I drink Pepsi anyway."

At the risk of oversimplifying a complex issue, Coca-Cola, Pepsico Inc. and approximately three hundred other American-based corporations have opted not to divest from South Africa. These companies have remained firm despite international opposition by prominent human rights activists.

Ron Nehring, President of College Republicans, supports Coca-Cola's right to sell their

products in South Africa. In the context of free enterprise, Nehring believes students are being deprived their freedom to choose their desired soft drink simply because a small minority of students harbor resentment toward Coca-Cola's affiliation with South Africa. Nehring stated, "I oppose the ban because it ultimately removes the freedom of choice from an overwhelming majority of students. Only about 8% of the student body votes in Polity elections to begin with."

Earlier this semester, the College Republicans claimed to have polled 166 students randomly on campus if they buy coke products at SB. Interestingly, 89% of the students responded "yes."

Further, Nehring purports that Coke has a philanthropic as well as financial interest in aiding oppressed South African Blacks, "Coke clearly wants to prepare blacks for post-Apartheid South Africa. Coca-Cola took a bold step when they donated \$10 million to the Equal Opportunity Foundation -- the largest black controlled independent resource organization in South Africa." In short, the College Republicans, said Nehring, see the opposition to Coke as a knee jerk reaction to the hype, rather than a growing student interest in dissolving Apartheid. "Those who support

the Coke ban are manipulating consumers (students) to further their own special interests."

Scott MacDonald, a ROAR representative, sees the Coca-Cola ban as a powerful message in showing student opposition to the Apartheid regime in S. Africa. MacDonald stated, "We're boycotting Coke because people can all relate to it because of Coke's high visibility and heavy advertising campaign." Coke currently holds 69% of the market share of soda sales in South Africa. MacDonald added, "Our goal is to pressure FSA to break existing contracts with Coke and show students that alternative soda machines and products are available to them." FSA's current contract with Coca-Cola extends to 1992.

In contrast to College Republicans' favorable viewpoint, ROAR maintains that Coke's \$10 million grant to the Equal Opportunity Foundation was purely a public relations move done to portray Coke as sympathetic, when in fact, Coke is actually money oriented and economically supports Apartheid.

If polltaking is an accurate indicator of student views, we could be drinking our last Coke's, Dr. Peppers, and Sprites this spring semester at SUSB.

Senate Report on Coke

by Liam McGrath

On March 20th, the Coca-Cola ban will be up for referendum. This is an attempt to answer some questions you may have had and to set the different sides of the issue down as clearly as possible.

What a "YES" vote by the students would mean:

-It would be a recommendation to the Faculty Student Association not to re-sign with Coca-Cola, because of the company's involvement in South Africa, when the current campus beverage contract is up, in August 1992.

-Negotiations for a new contract will begin very early in 1992, and students sitting on FSA have said they would follow such a recommendation.

-Coke would not leave campus immediately, unless sales of Coke products on campus drop significantly- that is the only way students as a group can directly force nullification of the current contract.

When and why the issue was brought up at SUNY Stony Brook:

-Last November, Rightfully Opposed to Apartheid and Racism (ROAR) presented the issue to the Polity Senate. After three weeks of debate, the issue was put on referendum up to student vote.

-A Coke boycott has been carried out or attempted in various forms by several

colleges, especially in the Northeast (Mt. Holyoke, Smith, Amherst among them) and by such public institutions as the Los Angeles city government.

-Among the reasons why Coke is being "picked on" (instead of other American companies involved in South Africa), according to the Coca-Cola Boycott Campaign, are world-wide name recognition, visibility, accessibility, and the company's dominance (69%) of South Africa's soft drink market.

What Coke has to say about it:

-In 1986, Coke announced it was disinvesting in South Africa "in a way that creates significant multiracial equity participation in the South African soft drink industry... that improves the prospects of black South Africans and increases their ability to invest in their country's economy."

-The company created the Equal Opportunities Foundation in 1986, investing \$10 million initially and turning over complete control to an independent eight-member board, made up of mostly black South Africans. The Board of Trustees of the EOF has made grants in areas such as childhood education, rural development, health care, and legal services.

-The divestment included the closing of Coke's concentrate plant in South Africa and the building of a new plant in Swaziland, an

independent country of 750,000 people surrounded by South Africa, "Thereby ending our corporate and tax presence in (South Africa)." Contracts with South African bottlers were not terminated for legal reasons "because of their long-term nature."

-Coca-Cola negotiated with South Africa's major bottler the sale of 11% of its shares to 7,000 small retailers and employees, approximately 4,200 of whom are black.

-Coke "does not fund apartheid."

VOTE

March 20

Marburger at Polity

by Jay Amster

"I was wondering whether I should leave a note on my window in case I'm towed. I had to park in an illegal space out there." Thus President John Marburger began his first Address to Polity this semester on Wednesday, March 7th, opening up a floodgate of concerns over the parking fee and the overall state of affairs at Stony Brook.

As for the parking fee, "The University has determined there will be a parking fee," said Dr. Pogue from Central Administration in Albany. It seems no one is quite sure whether there will be a parking fee next Fall for the implementation of the fee is on hold. This should take a couple of months to settle. There's also some really bad news for students who think that their paying of a fee will actually change parking for the better. Marburger the idealist: "Fees should be used to improve parking." Marburger the pragmatist: "Is that what's going to happen? I don't think so." So much for that. The reason? It seems the budget committee is already taking money out of the fee as if it had already been implemented. Therefore, the parking fee program is getting one healthy start...in the red. "You will not see a major increase in the quality of parking." What will we see?

The only new lota going to be built will be for the graduate students living in the yet to be

completed dorm behind Kelly Quad and a new lot for the yet to be completed Fieldhouse. Aside from that, there are plans to enforce rules and fine cars with no stickers, thus making room for students with stickers. Marburger also has a plan to use more efficiently some of the vacant lots. His plan is to utilize unused lots to maximum efficiency. He also plans to use smaller busses to double the number of bus runs "hopefully starting this semester."

The topic of the state budget brought in some rather unexpected bad news. Marburger said, "Since the governor released his budget in January, things have gotten worse." The reason for this that New York State Tax Returns are not coming in as fast as New York State would like. Usually by this time, President Marburger would be aware of any cuts in the school's budget but he "doesn't know yet what is being proposed." New York State's problem is quite serious for this school because a good 43% of our budget comes from the tax dollar. In a precautionary move, the school has adopted belt tightening measures: turning off lights when they're not needed and decreasing the heat and hot water in academic buildings. A cut could hit SUNY; Stony Brook particularly hard because of its location on Long Island, an area with a very high cost of living. The President mentioned that a

letter writing campaign may be necessary to forego cuts.

Excellent news for sufferers of Daka. Marburger, after a tirade of complaints: "This is the first time in 3-4 years I heard these kinds of complaints." What opened the President's eyes? For one thing, green tomatoes. A girl - a very disgusted and distraught girl - complained about the devastating affect Daka food has had on her studies, life and stomach. To prove her point, she held up two unidentified, bright green slices and asked, "Do you know what this is? It's a tomato." At this point, Marburger - although obviously disgusted - replies: "You don't have to eat the tomatoes. You can eat something else." He then said that all complaints should be brought before the Food Quality Committee. At that point, a couple senators - one of whom worked on the Committee - said the Committee was ineffectual. After all this, it took Dan Slepian's (Vice-President of Polity) remark, "There really is a big problem with Daka." He plans to take it up with F.S.A.

On the topic of food, Dr. Preston mentioned that there will be new cooking facilities installed in cooking dorms. He was also attacked on the \$180 cooking fee - exorbitant in the light of the minimal service provided. He then explained that the program has been in the red since its onset

President Marburger said he also thinks its time to simplify the complex Core requirements. A senator criticized the lack of new classes to which President Marburger responded: "There have been changes, you probably just haven't noticed them yet..."

The next thing that came up was the ongoing Coke Ban controversy.

When first questioned about the Coke Ban, Marburger sounded very positive:

"I'm always supportive of initiatives like that." But then he seemed to express the opinion that enough had already been done on campus to warrant some kind of lessening of intensity. The "symbolism of this move is less significant now that there's been a lot of things happening in South Africa."

Next to take the floor was John Reeves, Director of the Athletic Department. He convincingly spoke in support of a referendum for a separate \$24 Athletic Fee. He said that the fee will definitely not be raised for at least 3 years and that if this isn't passed, "it would mean incredible damage to undergraduate student

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experience in Polity. I am most qualified to serve my class because I am aware of student interests and concerns. The opinions of my class will be my concern and voiced in Polity.

Alex Barkan

I am running because I believe I can do a good job, given the chance. I do not have qualifications in Stony Brook office, but how can a person get a chance if he is not voted on?

2. Are you supporting any other candidates for any other office? Who and why or why not?

Paul Miller

No, I am not.

Maxine Douglass

Yes, I support Allison Gill for Senior Rep., Karen Wilson for Junior Rep., Marlene LaRose, and

Addie Neckles for Judiciary, Randy Campbell and Bessie Ortega for SASU/USSA, and Glenn Magpantay for S.B. Council. As a team, I feel that these people are not only qualified for the job, but the most devoted to student rights.

Christine Tracy

My support is given to Dan Slepian for President. I know that Dan is very dedicated to the students of Stony Brook and that he is more than qualified to hold the position of President. However, I am willing to work with whomever is elected into office and wish all the nominees luck in the election.

Alex Barkan

I am supporting Mike Lapushner for President. I believe he is a candidate who has experience and has the students best interests in mind.

3. What is the single most important issue facing students, both commuters and residents?

Paul Miller

I believe that the parking situation on this campus is the largest issue facing students as well as faculty.

Maxine Douglass

Considering the diversity in Stony Brook Campus, it is difficult to report on what issue is the most important. Any issue which stands in the way of making education affordable and accessible, is of major importance. Certainly when we say what is important the answer clearly is education!

Christine Tracy

Apathy is definitely the issue that must be faced. Student disinterest must be eliminated. Students must be motivated to participate in activities and

appreciate the programs provided here at Stony Brook. Unity must be increased on this campus. For commuters, we want the day to continue at Stony Brook even though classes are over.

Alex Barkan

The parking fee, tuition hikes, and campus free time.

4. What important issues face your class?

Paul Miller

As I stated above, I feel that the parking situation, specifically the parking fee, is an important issue. Other issues facing this class are rising costs, living conditions, campus security, and road conditions.

Maxine Douglass

As I have stated earlier, the issue of education is certainly the most important one that faces not only Sophomore students, but all students in SUNY. Unless we

can make education available and accessible, then there will be no State Universities. Thus, unless we make tuition affordable, create a safe, accessible campus, and give students access to higher education, then education will be obsolete. Without addressing this issue, students cannot address themselves. To understand ourselves, we must understand where we come from. To understand where we come from, we must be educated. Education therefore, is the issue which most affects my class, and certainly it is the primary objective of all students.

Christine Tracy

Several issues are significant to the Sophomore class. Many students are concerned about mandatory meal plan on residence halls and entire quads. Academic issues also require attention. Perhaps incentive programs can be organized to increase academic output. This can even improve the Stony Brook reputation. Some don't realize the actual potential of Stony Brook. We must make students proud to be attending this university.

Alex Barkan

In my opinion the important issues of my class include: 1) more unity in school decisions 2) being recognized as a voice 3) tuition hikes 4) dorm life 5) parking fee

Judiciary

1. Why are you running and what are your qualifications?

Marlene LaRose

In writing my platform for the Judiciary, I declined on stating a fixed position on any of the issues. It is my opinion that a judge must have an open mind, and be receptive to all issues placed before him or her. I would be doing a disservice to my constituents by imposing my personal feeling on any particular issue. Armed with the law and my desire to service justice, I believe I will be an impartial judge.

I am running for the position because I have a strong attachment to this institution, and thousands of students who attended Stony Brook. I am willing to dedicate my time, and all my energy to insure the positive progress of the University.

Addie Neckles

I am running as an active undergraduate at Stony Brook. I feel that I have the capability to handle the position. As a former resident orientation counselor, who has studied the student conduct code, I have learned how

to institute and regulate procedures yet be impartial and fair.

Having been elected treasurer of Gershwin for two semesters, I have proven my capacity for being a good leader. It's my intention to enter the field of law upon graduation so the judicial process has also been an area that I have participated in with great enthusiasm.

Svetlana Noskov

My name is Svetlana Noskov. I am a sophomore, and I am a Sociology and Russian major.

Because of my sophomore standing, I will be able to devote a lot of my time to the judiciary committee. I have worked for a law firm, which I feel prepared me for this position. I am also involved with NYPIRG's small claims court.

I want to be involved in judiciary, because I have a great deal of interest in it, and eventually I plan on going to law school.

I feel that all of the above was a good experience to prepare me for the position of a judiciary.

2. How do you plan to represent the needs of students?

Marlene LaRose

The most important qualification I have to do this job is my commitment and my desire to do the best I possibly can for the students who attend this institution.

I can best represent my constituents by endorsing other qualified candidates, who are also dedicated to serving this community.

Secretary - Glen Magpantay
Senior Rep. - Allyson Gill
Junior Rep. - Karen Wilson
Judiciary - 1. Marlene LaRose

2. Addie Neckles

SB Council - Glen Magpantay
S.A.S.U. - Bessie Ortega

The needs of the student will be my first priority, I will do my best to insure that the rights of the students are never infringed upon. A vote for Marlene is a vote for a better Stony Brook.

Addie Neckles

I plan to represent the students by being an impartial and fair member of the judiciary. As a former leader of a Polity runned organization, I feel the need to excel in the political environment. I can fill this position because I consider myself to be people oriented, I am dedicated and hardworking, easily accessible and will do my best to represent the rights of the university community.

With the best interest of the student body, I support the

following candidates:

Sec/SB Council - Glenn Magpantay

Soph Rep. - Maxine Douglas

Junior Rep. - Karen Wilson

Senior Rep. - Allison Gill

Svetlana Noskov

Through the activities that I am involved with and also through my sorority, I feel that I can represent the needs of the students. Also, living on campus, I see more issues and concerns of the residents.

Since I'm only a sophomore, I will be able to devote at least two years to the committee and therefore will be able to understand Polity constitution and bi-laws more fully.

SASU/ USSA

Rep.

1. Why are you running and what are your qualifications?

Randy Campbell

Bessie Ortega

The reason for why I'm running other than already being a student advocate is what I have seen SASU do for the campus. Last year they attacked tuition hikes and did a successful job at stopping it. From going to their main office and conferences in Albany I received a sense of progressive people working on campus issues on a state level. In SASU sex and color barriers don't exist, all people work to achieve the same goal; Faculty diversity, quality living standards, and curriculum reform.

In terms of my qualifications I have been involved in community service on campus since my freshman year. I started with one year and a semester at Blackworld newspaper from head photographer to layout person. Through Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc. as a Sigma Star I set up a program to bring high school students up to Stony Brook to learn about college life firsthand. I worked with the Minority Planning Board for a semester. Presently I am the President of the Latin American Student Organization. I am qualified to be the person to bring your concerns to the officials who deal with policies that affect you.

2. How do you plan to help SASU/ USSA help Stony Brook?

Randy Campbell

Bessie Ortega

I hope to follow Glenn Magpantay's trail of achievements here at Stony Brook. With the help of Randy Campbell I plan to keep Stony Brook involved and aware of what is going on in terms of issues affecting them. I also want to mobilize more students to be involved in S.A.S.U.

S.B. Council

1. Why are you running and what are your qualifications?


Glenn Magpantay

I've done a great deal of work with Polity, SASU, and GALA. From planning lesbian, gay, and bisexual awareness weeks to fighting tuition hikes, from tenants' rights to choice. Everything I've done has been geared towards the betterment of students' lives and welfare. I've sat on committees with administrators and board meetings with students. I've organized awareness weeks and demonstrations. I'm running to represent the students' needs and interests. I talk to several students every day and have a very good sense of their concerns. I want to genuinely work for them. I don't think it's fair when students' rooms are flooding, a parking fee is being imposed with no increase in services or students are being harassed for being lesbian, gay, or bisexual. I've always stood up for students and will continue to stand up for them. I've done a lot of work, and want to do more.

2. How do you plan to represent the needs of students?

Glenn Magpantay

By going to the meetings and making sure that the University Board of Trustees knows what the students are experiencing, and their concerns. There is a lot to do, but it can be done with a student who knows what's going on and who cares.



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