

Elections

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and class, he or she will be permitted to vote. Voting will take place from 8 a.m. until 8 p.m. on April 17. Though the system has been thoroughly tested, Carlson reminds students that manual voting will still take place if the system were to crash. "If for some reason people cannot get to the site, then there will be a box in Benson University Center, and everyone should come and vote in that central location," Carlson said. She said of the new procedures, "it saves us an incredible amount of time in counting votes (and I think it will increase voter turnout.)"

Presidential candidate junior Jordan Brehove has three years of experience in the legislature and is currently co-chair of the Campus Life Committee. Brehove, who ran unsuccessfully for president last year, has also served on the physical planning committee and is a member of the Army ROTC and a Leadership, Excellence, Application, Development program participant.

An information systems major, Brehove's platform ranges from academic and honor code issues to problems with race relations and campus safety.

According to his campaign statement, he proposes "a focus on enhancing the social life at Wake Forest to make Wake a more attractive university for college applicants and to make our time here more enjoyable. Having this identifiable SG goal for an academic year will allow us all to work together as well as provide SG the opportunity to reach its full potential."

Town Hall

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job responsibilities are and how the quality of the program can be improved. Some students have said that they are generally happy with it, but feel uninformed about exactly how the system works and what constitutes a qualified Resident Adviser.

Carson answered all of these questions, mostly sum-

The next presidential candidate, junior Caleb Rogers, a politics major, has three years of experience in the SG legislature and has served on the Appropriations and Charter Committee for two years and the Judiciary Committee for one year.



Goff

Rogers, a Dean's List student, is also involved in the Baptist Student Union and Volunteer Service Corps. Rogers' platform involves all facets of campus life, including modifying the current academic divisional system and increasing the number of blue safety lights on campus.

His other ideas include an "internship elective credit plan for students participating in a non-paid internship or community service" and "increasing weekend party hours by 30 to 60 minutes."

The third presidential candidate is junior Sandy Salstrom, a political science and communications major. Salstrom, this year's Public Relations Committee chair, has organized various projects like the recent town hall meetings and the "What's Your Beef?" tables in the Benson and Reynolda food courts.

A participant and mentor in LEAD and a member of the Pi Sigma Alpha National Political Science Honor Society, Salstrom is devoted primarily "to work with the university to ensure that with the ensuing Capital Campaign drive (raises) faculty salaries to a level comparable to other joint admission institutions." Salstrom also places importance on projects like town hall meetings, student seating at football and basketball games, and parking problems. "Experience in this position is key," Salstrom said.

The three candidates for secretary - sophomore Greg Casey, freshman Michelle Gallagher and sophomore Tommy O'Reardon; all offer relatively fresh perspectives and bring many different

qualities to the candidate pool.

Though Gallagher has not been involved with SG this year, she says her experience as a member of Student Union and high school yearbook editor add to her leadership capabilities.

"I want to continue the town hall open forums and implement them into student government policies," Gallagher said.

O'Reardon also lacks experience in SG, though he said his experience with Big Brothers/Big Sisters and involvement in the university's Catholic Community will prove helpful in his campaign.

The three candidates for treasurer, all freshmen, are very strong and have significant experience in student organizations.

Trey Davis, an Honor's Scholar, was the freshman representative to the Honor and Ethics Council.

In his campaign statement, Davis said, "As treasurer, I want to strengthen the communication bridge between students, faculty, and administration, assure that student funds are being fully used, and assure that students play a significant role as Wake Forest takes the national stage."

Katherine Maeve Goff, the third candidate, serves on the Physical Planning committee and

is a member of the SG legislature. Goff is also co-host of *The Voice of the Deacons*, Student Government's show on WAKE TV, and a Hankins Scholar at the university. "I'll be extremely fair when it comes to the (SBAC) process and examine all documents brought before me in order to allocate the money fairly," Goff said.

Ashlee Miller, a prospective business major, is a member of the Student Budget Advisory Committee and SG legislature, as well as the President's Advisory Committees on Elections and Honor and Ethics.

"I want to encourage clubs and organizations that have events that will enrich, educate, entertain and bring diversity or pride to the whole campus. I also plan to re-organize the Student Government budget so that it will be more effective in coming years," Miller said.

Both candidates for speaker of the house have been extensively involved in Student Government since they were freshmen.

Sophomore Sean McGuire, a political science major, has been a legislator and member of the Campus Life Committee for two years. "It's a position I have wanted since I entered SG. I know that I will be dedicated to the office of speaker and work very hard to pass legislation that will truly benefit students," McGuire said.

Sophomore Ryan Ramsey, a history and political science major, is currently the chairman of the Academic Committee. As a freshman, he was a member of the Campus Life Committee and the Executive Advisory Committees on Social Policy, Off-Campus Policy and Elections.

Ramsey said in his campaign statement, "I will be interested to address such issues as campus security and women's health, and well as improving the student body's relationship with faculty and administration."

Derek Radney, a public relations officer in SG, said that this meeting had its negative and positive aspects. He felt that the meeting set a bad light on the students of the university because of their complaints and poor participation. However, he is pleased with how well SG has successfully integrated the administration and students during the town hall meetings.

Tyler Overstreet, the treasurer of SG, characterizes the administration as very open. "The meeting was very informal and laid back," she said, "They were willing to talk to us. I was sad that there were not more people there to hear what they had to say."

of now, the best way to deal with housing issues is to have questions answered by a campus official, and not by a computer.

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Tyler Overstreet
Student Government Treasurer

Casey, a biology major, is currently a legislator serving on the Physical Planning Committee. Casey's main goal is to "improve morale of the legislators. I want there to be more of a friendly atmosphere in SG," he said.

He also proposes efforts to improve the campus recycling program and to reduce the number of parking tickets given by university police.

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PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Well, we've finally done it. All these pollutants and toxic emissions we've been pumping into the atmosphere for a little over one century have finally started to make a difference. Can you believe that although humans have lived on this planet for 10,000 years, earth will become warmer in the next hundred years than ever before in history? The consequences of this aren't pretty.

As of November 18, 2000, the ozone layer over parts of Poland, Finland, Estonia and Russia has dropped to levels under 200 Dobson Units and under 225 Dobson Units over areas in the UK, Denmark, Sweden, Finland and Russia. What does this mean? Another "Ozone Hole" or low ozone event has formed over Europe, in addition to the large hole already growing over Antarctica. The normal range for ozone thickness is 300 to 500 Dobson units; ozone values below 220 DU are levels that are usually defined as an "Ozone Hole". The ozone layer, high up in the atmosphere, shields Earth from much of the sun's harmful ultraviolet rays. A gradual thinning due to emissions of damaging man-made chemicals has increased the occurrence of skin cancer and other illnesses related to over-exposure to ultraviolet rays. We have all heard that ozone depletion can result in global warming and may have other adverse effects, but now we are actually seeing the results of humanity's influence on the global climate.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) reports that air pollution will cause global temperatures to rise up to 10.5 degrees during the next century. Rising temperatures will likely lead to drastic shifts in weather, with melting polar ice caps raising the sea levels, droughts striking farming areas and flooding affecting densely populated coastal areas worldwide. Unfortunately, the poor in developing countries will be the most affected. For example, in Africa, deserts are expected to spread, and an increase of heavy rains in other areas has already allowed mosquitos to reproduce more easily, spreading malaria. The climate changes will almost definitely increase the number of undernourished people in Africa as well as in other developing countries. Scientists also believe that there will be significant extinction of plants and animals in Africa during the new century as a result of global warming, a process that has already started worldwide.

As it turns out, amphibians are good indicators of significant environmental changes since they breathe through their skin, which is constantly exposed to the environment. Their bodies are more sensitive and susceptible to disease, pollution, toxic chemicals, radiation, and habitat destruction. In other words, when the frogs start to go, we aren't far behind and by that time we've already missed the point anyway. Presently in America alone, amphibian deformities - extra limbs, malformed or missing limbs, and facial malformations - have been documented in 44 states, and involve nearly 60 species. In some local populations, up to 60% of the amphibians exhibit deformities. Some species have disappeared completely, and others are no longer found where they used to be. In case you need to be told, this is bad: We have depleted atmospheric ozone levels; pollutants are accumulating in the natural systems on which we and other organisms depend; we may be altering weather patterns. Such gradual, but fundamental changes are certain to have an effect on the ecosystem. It is possible that amphibians are responding adversely to these changes. They may be showing us how our activities are affecting our shared ecosystem (<http://www.solcomhouse.com/frogs.htm>).

Even though some of the changes humans have made to their ecosystem are irreversible, we may have enough time to modify our processes and also try to help affected countries and species adjust to the impending changes in climate. In addition to minimizing global warming through cutting emissions from factories, power stations, cars (especially SUVs!), and homes, we need to understand the powerful changes our industrial economy has set in motion and anticipate them in the hopes that we may minimize any future damage to our environment. These are REAL, significant changes we have created in our ecosystem, and we must acknowledge them, take responsibility for them, and do something to make sure our situation improves.

However, rather than awakening to the striking ecological realities describe above, current President George W. Bush is acting to reverse many of Clinton's environmental policies, as well as his own promises made during the presidential campaign. The drilling for oil in the National Arctic Wildlife Refuge is just the icing on the cake. The President has also backed out of a campaign promise to sign the Kyoto Protocol, a bill being signed by every other major nation worldwide promising they will reduce the amount of toxic excretions into the air, thereby slowing global warming. Bush has declared the Kyoto negotiations "dead". Rather than cooperate with international partners, Bush has refused proposed changes in the Kyoto agreement, thus nullifying previous promises regarding global emissions legislation. Our European allies feel they have been lied to and that the US is selfishly avoiding responsibility for their ecological track record. Luckily, other countries believe the Kyoto Accords do not need the support of the US in order to pass. Bush says we need alternative sources of power but all he needs to do is look at the sun and wind to find the answer he needs; the technology is there. Hopefully this will be a sign to our new president that we will not stand for further damage to our earth, our home, our mother. Write to your senator (for NC write Sen. Jesse Helms at Helms@helms.senate.gov or Edwards at senate@edwards.senate.gov) or Dubya himself (president@whitehouse.gov) and let them hear your opinion on the matter.

See also: <http://www.msnbc.com/local/rtn/m23035.asp>
<http://www.environment.org>

In other environmental news, join SEAC in celebrating the Earth on Friday, 4/20 on Davis Field for our Earth Day bash...speakers, music, food, and...beer...all provided...we'll see you there...



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