



# Campus Elections Orientation

November 17, 2008

November 19, 2008



# Introductions

- Lucy Rojas, Elections Commissioner
- All – What organization or department do you represent? What is your measure, SUA constitutional amendment, or opinion poll idea?



# Relevant Policies

- Policy on Compulsory Campus-Based Student Fees. Section 80 of University of California *Policies Applying to Campus Activities, Organizations and Students*.
- *UCSC Campus Elections Policy*



# Student Consultation

Section I of Campus Elections Policy:

“Student opinion and viewpoint should be sought on matters affecting both the academic and non academic experiences of students, and especially those decisions which directly affect their welfare, through drawing upon official student representation, as well as additional means for seeking student input as appropriate.”



# Student Consultation

Policy on compulsory campus based fees requires that measure authors consult with students in developing the need for the measure, the cost, and the measure viability.

Strategies used:

- Advisory committees
- Focus groups
- Planning committees
- Student governments
- Opinion polls and surveys



# Placing a Question on the Ballot

## Step One: Determine Your Audience

- Undergraduate and/or Graduate Students?
- If you have a measure, and want to tax undergraduate and graduate students at different rates, you must have two separate measures.



# Placing a Question on the Ballot

Undergraduate (must obtain one of the following):

- Petition signed by at least 10% of the undergraduate student body, with no more than 25% from any one college or
- Resolution of Student Union Assembly or
- Resolution endorsed by 2/3 of the College student governments or
- Proposal by Vice Chancellor, Student Affairs or Chancellor



# Placing a Question on the Ballot

Graduate (must obtain one of the following):

- Petition signed by 10% of the graduate student body or
- A resolution of the Graduate Student Association or
- Proposal of the dean of Graduate Division or Chancellor



# Place a Question on the Ballot

Undergraduate and Graduate Students:

- Must fulfill one of the approval mechanisms for Undergraduate students and
- Must fulfill one of the approval mechanisms for Graduate students



# Measure Must Include:

- Cost
- Return to Aid component
- Whether the fee is being assessed during summer session
- How students were consulted
- When the fee will begin being assessed
- Ballot statement which includes: why the fee is needed, how it will be used and how students will benefit
- *Please review the template for ballot language and sample measures for more information*



# Ballot Language

Before a measure is placed on the ballot, the following people/entities review and comment on the language:

- Vice Chancellor, Student Affairs
- UCSC Planning and Budget
- UCOP Office of Campus Life
- UCOP Office of General Counsel



# Return to Aid

- Each measure must build in a 33% Return-to-Aid component. This contribution will assist in covering the fee for students who receive financial aid.



# Return to Aid

Formula:

1) Fee amount multiplied by .33 = X

2) Fee amount - X = \$ amount your unit/student organization will receive.

Example: You want to tax \$5.00 per student per quarter for your initiative:

$$\$5.00 \times .33 = \$1.65$$

$$\$5.00 - \$1.65 = \$3.35$$

\$3.35 = \$ amount your unit/student organization will receive



# Voting Pools

- A minimum of 25% of the student population must vote on a particular measure for the measure to be considered (based on the third week enrollment numbers in spring quarter)
- Of those voting on a measure, 50% + 1 must vote yes for the measure to pass



# Electronic Voting System

- Complete voting process is accomplished online, via the Campus Elections Website
- Student log into the voting system using their student ID # and pin
- Student Affairs Web Analyst will administer the voting process and verify results



# Opinion Poll

Opinion poll: a survey conducted as part of the ballot to elicit or express student sentiment or convictions on a particular subject. An opinion poll does not have a direct or binding impact.

Sponsorship of Opinion Poll: Student government, student organization, administrative or academic unit, individual student who is collaborating with above mentioned.



# SUA Constitutional Amendment

An amendment to the Constitution may be proposed by either a two-thirds ( $2/3$ ) vote of the SUA, two-thirds ( $2/3$ ) of the college governments (rounded up [7]), or petition signed by at least ten-percent (10%) of all registered undergraduate students.

Once sponsored by one of the above mechanisms, the amendment is placed on the ballot. An amendment requires a simple majority of twenty percent (20%) of undergraduate students voting yes, to pass.



# Elections Guidelines

- Be responsive and conscious of deadlines
- Be in regular contact with the Elections Commissioner
- Campus Posting Regulations
  - As we get closer to campaigning and elections dates, we will meet again to discuss guidelines for posting, advertising, etc.



# Review of Campus Elections Timeline:

## *Key Dates*

- *Orientation Sessions: November 17<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>*
- *Referenda/Opinion Poll/Amendment Applications Due: January 9<sup>th</sup>*
- *Sponsorship Application Due: March 13<sup>th</sup>*
- *Campaigns Begin: April 6<sup>th</sup>*
- *Campus Elections: TBA*



# After the Election

- Web Analyst verifies results
- Vice Chancellor reviews and approves results
- Chancellor reviews and approves results
- Elections results are submitted to President Yudof for review and approval



# Questions