

[Staff Editorial]

SGA Elections? Who knew?

If you haven't noticed, the Student Government Association elections are taking place Tuesday and Wednesday "In the Academic Quad (or MG Lobby) and lobby of Meyers dining hall (during meal times)" according to an email sent from the SGA on Monday, a day before elections began.

The first hint for the majority of the student body that SGA elections were coming up was in an email from current SGA Vice President Jordon Huppert sent to the BC campus on Saturday, Feb. 11. However, there was no date for elections stated in the email.

On Feb. 17, *Six days* before the nominations for office closed, the first email notifying the student body of any electoral activity was sent. The email read

"~SGA Elections will be held soon~

Make your nominations now!

Elections close after the Joint Session meeting on Wednesday, February 22"

On Monday, Feb. 20, *two days* before nominations closed, SGA sent an email saying

*"Last chance to be nominated for Executive Board Office
~SGA~*

The Joint Session will meet Wednesday

at 8:00 p.m. in

MG 115."

On Feb. 21, only two days before the candidate's debate, SGA sent this email to the student body:

"There will be a Debate between the candidates for SGA Executive Office this Thursday at 7:00.

The location is TBA

but keep checking your email.

There will be time for questions

from the audience so come prepared"

Six days before nominations for SGA office closed, the SGA

sent the first email to the student body notifying them that any sort of elections were taking place. There was no mention of a time and date for elections from the SGA until one day before the elections began. There was no notification of a debate from the SGA until two days before it was to take place, and even then there was no location mentioned.

Perhaps this is why there were, not counting the candidates, no more than five students in attendance. That amounts to approximately .83% of the student body. Notice, the decimal in that number is before the 8.

The student body at large was officially notified by the SGA of the dates for the election less than 24 hours before the election began. While there were posters from a few candidates on the walls in MG and MS, there was no official word until the day before the elections began.

That gave many students at most two days to consider their candidates, which around 99.2% of the student body had not seen at the debate, and have limited knowledge of the candidate's positions.

Four of the six positions were uncontested, as each had only one candidate. Maybe this was due to a lack of notification about nominations and the election from the SGA to the students who don't attend SGA meetings.

No matter who is elected, it will seem hard for the student body to have, at least at first, confidence in the officials, seeing as there were only two weeks between the first notification and the actual election. It seems that the current administration has undermined the future administration by not giving the student body at large enough of a chance to take part in the process of this year's election.

On the Record ...

"We will continue to uphold and promote peaceful and stable development of cross-strait relations ... and strive for the prospect of peaceful unification. However, we resolutely oppose 'Taiwan independence,' and will never allow 'Taiwan independence' ... forces to split Taiwan from the motherland under any name or in any way."

—the ruling Chinese Communist Party said in a statement carried by the official Xinhua News Agency.

"It is my own stupid fault, as usual."

—Pop musician George Michael on getting arrested for possession of drugs in London.

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