

International bias in American elections

By Chantel Azevedo
Staff Writer

The American elections may seem a very confusing time for many American college students. Imagine how much more confusing this time is for the many international students that attend American colleges, such as BC.

Election time in America is known to be very stressful and chaotic for many citizens, but to some, it is known to be a very boring and confusing time—as is often the case, for example, for college students. For many college students, this time is not taken seriously or in fact even thought about at all. Similarly, for many international students at various American colleges around the country, this time is one that seems to bring about difficulty in understanding of the American culture and political world.

“As a European, I have difficulties grasping the concept behind the elections here in the States,” said Henri Erti, an international student from Estonia. “In European Parliament

elections, candidates put more emphasis on their professional qualifications, rather than personal faults. Here in the U.S., it seems that politicians try to bash each other using personal references or heuristic cues, rather than criticizing their political agendas. In Europe, a great majority of politicians are known for their work for the society and people pay less attention to scandals or personal code of conduct.”

It is clear to see that many international students just do not understand how the election process works or simply do not have any interest in it at all. To these international students coming from countries across the globe, the American culture is one of a foreign language which they do not understand. To others, it is just one that they do not want to try and translate.

“To be honest with you, I am not really following the elections right now,” said Canadian Nikki Peacock. “I personally do not have any views or opinions about it in general or about any of the candidates themselves. This time of the year does not bring about interest

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to me due to the fact that I am not a citizen of this country.” International students who attend American colleges are seen to have no direct interest in the American elections.

International students are usually more interested in the candidates that are running for office in their home countries. They tend to have a bias towards the elections not because they have many viewpoints in it, but rather opinions about the process.

BC senior recital: An evening of vocal music

BC senior Mosisah Mavity will perform a voice recital at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 6 in the Porter Center for Performing Arts.

The recital, which is free and open to the public, will include classical, opera and musical theatre repertoire by Claude Debussy, Franz Schubert, Georges Bizet, George Gershwin and many more. The program also features Brevard College junior Craig Brinker on piano and senior Trevor Wolford on classical guitar.

Mavity, Duke Scholar from Thomasville, Ga., is an English major who is minoring in Music. During her time at Brevard College, she has studied voice under Kathryn Gresham and has performed in choirs, master classes and recitals. She toured Austria and Bavaria with the BC Choirs in 2008.

Mavity performed in two opera scenes revues as well as the musical “She Loves Me.” She also is active in community performance events, most notably several productions with the Asheville Lyric Opera Company.

In addition, she was a debut member of the newly-founded Asheville Summer Choral Festival. In summer of 2008, Mavity was accepted as a member of the vocal ensemble for the prestigious College Light Opera Company in Massachusetts.

A reception in the Francis Pavilion will follow the performance.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT BC

BC Alumni Art Exhibition: In the Spiers Gallery, Sims Art Center. The exhibit will run until Nov. 5, 2010.

CAB Presents Game Night: Friday, Nov. 5 at 9 p.m. Catch Phrase, Phase 10, Scrabble, Cards, Monopoly and others.

CAB Presents Texas Hold' Em Tournament: Saturday, Nov. 6 at 8 p.m. in Coletrane Underground. No buy-in. \$50 Visa Gift Card prize for the 1st place winner. \$25 iTunes gift card to 2nd place winner. \$10 iTunes Gift Card and \$10 declining balance to Coltrane gift certificate for 3rd place winner.

CLUB AND GROUP MEETINGS

Campus Activities Board(CAB): Meets every Monday at 7:30 p.m. in the Underground. Want to see an event on campus? Bring us your ideas.

Student Government Association: Every Wednesday at 8 p.m. in the Reserve Dining Room. This week is an open forum. Everyone is welcome.

BC Greens: Meets Thursday at 8:30 p.m. in MG 113.

Team-Mobilizing Opportunities for Volunteer Engagement (T-M.O.V.E.): Sundays, 7 p.m. AEC Conference Room. Come if you're interested in community service and volunteerism.

Psych Club: Meets every Thursday at 7:30 p.m. in MG 224.

Peer Health Advocate Team (PHAT): Meets every Thursday at 5:30 p.m. in the Institute Room of Myers Dining Hall.

Fellowship of Christian Athletes(FCA): Meets every Tuesday at 9 p.m. in the Spiritual Life Center.

Pastimes History Club: Meets every Thursday at 6 p.m. in the MG Lobby.

Clarion Dealines: Have a submission? email it to clarion@brevard.edu by 5 p.m. Wednesday. Clarion staff meetings every Friday 11:30 a.m. in MG 102.

CAMPUS/OUTDOOR RECREATION EVENTS

Open Gym: Sunday through Thursday 7 to 11 p.m. Play basketball, indoor soccer, pool and table tennis, plus - use the fitness center and bring a buddy to use the free weight room.

Rec Room Midday Hours: Monday and Wednesday 12:30 to 1:30, Tuesday and Thursday 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. Use this time to shoot pool or play ping-pong, or to check out equipment.

Rock Climbing Trip: Saturday, Nov. 13th. There are few spots left, if you would like to go E-mail furrca@brevard.edu with your name and phone number.

Belay Clinic: Thursday, Nov. 11 at 8 p.m. in the auxiliary gym to prepare for the rock climbing trip. If you are not going on the trip, you are still welcome to attend.