

# SGA prepares for elections, discusses funds

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The Student Government Association won't be able to get a link on the IUS homepage that would allow students to go straight to the SGA election Web page.

Daniel Watkins, computer science junior and SGA technology officer, said they still might be able to make it easy for students to vote.

"We just wanted to make it so students could launch a [Web] browser and vote immediately,"

Watkins said.

Watkins said it was suggested that the SGA ask the IUS Public Relations department to write a story about the elections.

The story would be shown on the IUS home page, and then students could find a link within the story.

The elections will begin March 16 and end March 23.

Last year's SGA election yielded 77 votes.

Along with a Web link to vote, SGA members will take laptops around campus for the election

during lunch hour. They will approach students in computer labs, as well.

Jaarad Taylor, political science junior and SGA president, said there's a chance the SGA could get more votes this time around, and even meet their goal of 300 votes or more.

"I think we're on a pretty good track with this," Taylor said. "I'm seeing a lot of names on these petitions, which means a lot of people know about it."

Students running for SGA positions need to have students sign

petitions to allow them to run in the election.

Taylor said he didn't know if there were any contested seats yet, but will be able to tell this week. The deadline for applications was March 9.

Also to help encourage voters, an anonymous donor gave money to SGA to help issue gift certificates to voters.

The details are still being discussed, but it was suggested by Watkins that the gift cards be given to one randomly selected voter out of every 100 voters.

It was also suggested that the amount of the gift cards go up for every 100 voters.

The businesses the gift certificates can be redeemed at are also being discussed.

The SGA tabled a bill that would allot money for office supplies for all three of their offices.

The bill currently requests \$440.96 for office supplies.

Watkins suggested an amendment that projected lower prices for most of the supplies.

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# Career workshop offers major help

By **CAROLINE BRYAN**  
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If you happen to be one of the students at IU Southeast who has yet to declare a major, never fear.

Thanks to Jo Hatfield, career counselor and program coordinator, and Shannon Rosie, academic advisor and coordinator of the Academic Success Center's retention programs, students can find the help needed to choose a major that is best for them.

Hatfield and Rosie recently led the "Choosing Your Major" workshop. Students who attended the workshop had previously taken the Strong Interest Inventory.

The Strong Interest Inventory is an assessment with questions focused on a person's likes and dislikes.

There are slightly less than 300 questions on the survey.

Registered IUS students can take the survey at any time for \$15, compared to the online price of \$65.

"For some, the survey can be overwhelming," Hatfield said. "You just can't read too much into it."

With the results of the survey, students received a code called the Holland code.

The Holland code, developed by John L. Holland, is a set of letters corresponding to a list of six personality types.

The code tells which personality type the student best fits in and then offers a list of occupations that would best suit them.

Hatfield provided her



Photo by Caroline Bryan

**Jo Hatfield, career counselor and program coordinator, explains the Holland Code to students at the Choosing Your Major Workshop on March 6.**

**Students took the Strong Interest Inventory test to help figure out what careers and interests they might have. The questions focused on a person's likes and dislikes.**

own list which included majors offered at IU Southeast under each of the personality types.

"They get a top 10 list," Hatfield said. "It's important to research each and every one."

Hatfield recommends researching each career on

the list on the Internet. She also said she believes it's a good idea to volunteer and job shadow.

Rosie stressed the importance of choosing a major, and doing so before the end of a student's sophomore year.

"It's important to have a

major and to have a goal," she said. "Stay in school, go after your goal and receive your degree. Having that degree says a lot about you."

Hatfield and Rosie both agreed that the major a student chooses probably won't be what lands a job.

"A lot of employers aren't

interested in the specific major you have," Hatfield said. "They are going to teach you what they want you to know."

Regina Harris, communications freshman, was pleased with her results.

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# Disabilities discussed with SPC

By **MICHAEL WILMES**  
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The Student Program Council held a Night of Enlightenment on Feb. 26 in the Hoosier Room.

Ed Rosen, employment specialist with Bridgepointe Goodwill, talked to students in an attempt to heighten awareness of disabilities.

Rosen has been with Bridgepointe Goodwill for more than 10 years.

The event, which was co-sponsored by Campus Life and Disability Services, also featured free food and beverages and a movie which was shown after Rosen spoke.

The movie was "The Other Sister" which stars Juliette Lewis as a mentally disabled girl who overcomes her disabilities and goes to college, becoming independent.

Rosen began by telling students he had a disability and he asked them to guess what it was.

Velislav Ganev, finance freshman, guessed that Rosen was hard of hearing.

"No," Rosen said. "I have arthritis and both of my knees have been replaced. There are a lot of hidden disabilities."

Hannah Wallace, Disability Services coordinator, said she enjoyed Rosen's talk.

"I think my favorite thing was the speaker asked the audience what type of

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# University members research controversial issues

By **IAN HOOPES**  
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Professor of Sociology Sam Sloss and his students gave a presentation entitled Social Problems and Public Policies, in room 230 of the IUS Library on Feb. 28.

The work was done as part of the Summer Achievements in Research and Creativity series, a program at IU Southeast that awards fellowships to faculty members for research. The research was performed during the summer of 2006. Now faculty and students are presenting their labors.

"The SARC program lets professors do research they might not be able to," Deborah Finkel, dean of research and professor of psychology, said. "Sam Sloss was awarded a faculty-student fellowship. This presentation is one part of a bimonthly series that we give here at the library."

The SARC presentations are described as a series of "brown-bag talks" where students, faculty and staff are welcome to attend the presentations while enjoying their lunch. Snacks are also provided.

The first presentation of the semester, What Shy Individuals Do to Deal with Their Shyness: Analysis and Evaluation, was given by Bernie Carducci, professor of psychology, on Feb. 14.

Sloss and his three students gathered their research and analyzed it over the summer. At the time, two of the students were freshmen. Sloss said they had particular issues in mind.

"I wanted my students to get more information about social problems than is presented on your average nightly news program," he said. "We focused on controversial

**'I wanted my students to get more information about social problems than is presented on your average nightly news program.'**

**Sam Sloss**  
professor  
sociology

'wedge' issues. We chose abortion, stem cell research and the PATRIOT Act.

"We used wide demographics, and even dipped into the General Social Survey, to get figures we could manipulate, but it turned out to be more difficult than we expected," Sloss said.

Brandon Tomes, journalism junior, presented on the PATRIOT Act.

"The act was passed with little opposition, and President Bush signed it into law on Oct. 26, 2001," Tomes said. "One thing that is interesting is the democratic opposition we see later."

"The democrats in Congress voted 66.8 percent in favor of the act in 2001, but less than 50 percent of them supported subsequent amendments and renewals," Tomes said.

Tomes also said opinion differs very little in the general public's sphere of thought.

"In the public, the majority of both parties believe it is important to keep watch on governmental actions," Tomes said. "They feel democratic rights shouldn't be restricted."

Tomes said support has steadily declined for the PATRIOT Act since 2004, and the general public's feelings are nearly identical.

The topic of abortion was researched and discussed by Gary White, secondary education sophomore.

"The research on abortion, like a lot of issues, was most clearly divided among party lines," White said.

White's research showed approval for legal abortion changed depending on the situation.

"More people across most categories claimed approval for abortion when it was necessary for the mother's health, or rape was involved," White said. "Males tended to approve more when rape was involved, or the subject was a single mother, but there was no significant difference in opinion when it came to difference in race."

In his presentation, White also said legal abortion was supported more across certain religions.

"While republican opinions were generally against abortion, religion was a major deciding factor in democratic opinions," White said. "Jews tended to favor legal abortion while Mormons were the most in opposition."

White discussed the Congress vote on banning partial-birth abortions, which strictly forbade the act from being performed.

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