

2-17-1976

Caveat - Special Election Issue, February 17, 1976

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Recommended Citation

"Caveat - Special Election Issue, February 17, 1976" (1976). *Caveat*. Paper 65.
<http://digitalcommons.law.ggu.edu/caveat/65>

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SPECIAL ELECTION ISSUE * CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES (in alphabetical order)Rene Feinstein

Golden Gate University has reached a very special point in its history. We are in the process of emerging as a recognized first-rate school of law. As a result, the President of the SBA has special duties and concerns which normally do not attend the office. The following is a brief outline of the policies which will direct my activities:

INTERNAL CONCERNS - To preserve the quality of life which is uniquely Golden Gate's. As GGU expands and becomes aware of its importance in the legal community the danger is that the students and the institution will lose touch with each other. SBA must, at all cost, maintain the open and informal atmosphere in which GGU operates by seeing to it that you have the information you need to intelligently participate in the decision making processes. Because SBA has, to date, clearly been truant to its duty, I will take personal responsibility for keeping you informed, through i-monthly Caveat reports (with my phone number included), through efficient use of bulletin board space, and through personal contact in the hallways. As a matter of preference my schedule is evenly divided between Day and Night classes, so I will be available and accessible to students in both Divisions.

EXTERNAL CONCERNS - To expand our resources for jobs, clerkships, and clinics through organized alumni relations programs. Our alumni do not graduate only to disappear into a vast sea of unemployment. They are out there with good jobs and good contacts and we need to inspire in them a sense of loyalty to Golden Gate. To support the recently launched fund raising effort.

As long as Golden Gate must support itself solely on tuition, the cost, to us, will be tied to the rate of inflation. The only way to eliminate tuition increases and boost our financial aid capacity is to attract outside money. Where needed, SBA should give its time and energy to this campaign.

COMMENT - Golden Gate is posses of a well diversified student population, ranging from those of us who want to do corporate and tax law to those of us who want to represent farm workers and welfare recipients. These interests are to be accomodated, not chosen between. It is both possible and necessary that we simultaneously build our reputation as an institution of legal education

and demonstrate our commitment to those who are powerless in the system.

CHARLEY HERRINGTON

I'm running for SBA president because the time is right to return that office to the reality of representing a student body whose major concern is an end to at least some of the ever present price increases inherent in attending law school. The current SBA has decided that there are so many worthy interest groups to which the SBA should contribute that SBA dues should be doubled. I take issue with that. Why will doubling SBA dues help this situation? As everyone knows, interest groups smell money before they are born. If the SBA's budget is doubled, the number of interest groups "needing" money will double also, then another dues increase will be needed

People are weary of all this bureaucratic role playing. If you are a University President you want a new building. If you are a Law School Dean you want six new Profs and AALS accreditation. Following the leader, the SBA president wants the SBA budget doubled. This is crazy. Do we need any of the above? Why should the students have to finance such a textbook example of Parkinson's law?

Since it is true that interest groups do enjoy support by some GGU students, these students should have the option of contributing if they wish. For this reason, the initiative question which would institute a system of voluntary SBA contributions (rather than a general dues increase) should be passed. I had this question placed on the ballot because I am confident that the mass of students support me here; that student money has better uses than supporting the after school machinations of part time politicians and lobbyists.

True support of the various interest groups is shown not by a guilty reach into your pockets but by sympathetic committee appointments in areas that really count, such as admissions, academic standards, and budget. The idea that infusions of money into interest groups will solve problems has been long discredited. It is time to learn from the past.

PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES

MARGE HOLMES

Class: Third Year Night, first night student to run for this office

QUALIFICATIONS:

2 years on SBA, presently VP Scheduling Committee
Night School Orientation - 2 yrs
Active recruitment of night women
Co-chairperson, Women and Law Conference, Sept, 1974 (Over 1300 people attended)
Helped convince Law Review Editor to create positions on Law Review for 2nd year night students

I believe that the most important qualification needed and amply demonstrated is a concern and interest for the students. And a willingness to work hard.

The main concern of the moment is communication. Students who serve on committees and the SBA should be in constant contact with each other. A forum for all students should be held before any major decision is made which concerns the student body. Further, I don't think setting rigid standards for the functions of student members on committees is desirable. This could inhibit flexibility. The only requirement needed is keeping us all in touch with what is happening.

To keep in touch with evaluations, the forms should be re-done. And they should be objectively evaluated for tenured and non-tenured professors alike.

We need to decide where the law school is headed. Are we losing the atmosphere that had made this school so unique? The constantly rising tuition, while necessary, may force some of our most diverse and interesting personalities out of the school. We must get increased financial aid to offset these costs.

I nor anyone else can do anything alone. All of us can only speak as representatives of the student body. I know those of us who have worked hard on so many issues before will continue to do so. I only hope those just beginning to be involved through this election will continue to devote their energies to ways of improving the law school.

DENISE MILLS

The majority of the policy decisions affecting GGU students are made via the various student-faculty committees. Presently student members are chosen in a haphazard interview process by the Board of Governors of the SBA. The inherent power and importance of the committees warrants implementation of a democratic selection

DENISE MILLS (con't)

procedure. I submit that we are entitled both to a stronger voice in determining who is to sit on the committees and a fairer selection process. I propose that an elective procedure, similar to that of the general SBA elections be implemented. This will ensure more responsive and truly representative committees.

A major concern of many of us has been the apparent secrecy behind which the student-faculty committees function. I support a constructive reappraisal of the manner in which these committees operate. Guidelines and standards should be established for effective input by all of us. We must bring these committees out into the open, dispel doubts of incompetency, and return to devoting our energies towards making GGU an outstanding place to be.

In an effort to create a more responsive student government, I propose to make SBA meeting times more convenient for a majority of the student body to attend. Recognizing the problems of night and working students, a viable solution would involve alternating meeting times between the noon hour and the traditional 5:00 meeting time.

I also propose to initiate a consistent policy of providing a summary of the meetings to the Caveat as well as notice of special interest topics to be discussed in upcoming meetings. (How many times have you wondered what the SBA was doing? Or how many times have you found out about an issue of interest only when it was too late to participate in its resolution?) Because inflation has had its impact at GGU, I would initiate a student book exchange at the beginning of each semester, including the summer session, to maximize book recycling. We can all help each other.

Do we really need the SBA? I say yes. We have a uniquely strong voice in administrative affairs compared to students at other law schools. But that can only be the beginning. The challenge is to have an effective, informed, and well-represented voice. As a past member of the Academic Standards Committee, and a current member of the Law Review Staff, I have had an opportunity to both participate in decision making and to experience the end result of those decisions. I actively seek your support and help in meeting that challenge.

PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES

VINCENTE MONTOYA

I would be dishonest if I did not say that one of the considerations for my running for SBA President is the tuition waiver. Without that waiver, continuation in law school would be tenuous to say the least. However, my particular financial situation is not uncharacteristic of the majority of the student body, and the current tuition hike accentuates those monetary difficulties.

Emerging from the confrontation over the staggered tuition were two glaring needs. One need was the availability of more financial aid independent of federal loans; the other was prompt and accurate dissemination of information.

Top priority should be given to financial aid. Even though it may be determined that additional financial aid is not available, information concerning financial aid and other related subjects i.e. MediCal, Child Care, Welfare, Food Stamps, could be made more accessible.

Again the central question is accessibility to and dissemination of information. At the beginning of the year Lynda Brothers and Dean McKelvey announced to the incoming classes, "Read all the bulletin boards." More than this is needed, especially when the most important part of the FSC minutes are facing the board, e.g. the minutes concerning the tuition hike. I would propose that a Master Calendar be posted on which all meetings and events would be listed, along with room numbers and times. In conjunction with this, proposed agendas should be made available.

Information is of no impact, however, if little or nothing can be done with it. Presently there are six student representatives on the F.S.C. as opposed to 20 faculty members. In addition, F.S.C. meetings are closed to the student body, unless one is a representative or an invited guest. Not only do I feel that all these meetings should be open to the students (Hopefully this will have been decided by press time) but more importantly that there should be more student representatives on the F.S.C.

ALAN SILVER

WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT.

It is in the nature of controversy that people should sharply differ. However, controversy only results in effective change when the people put aside their emotions and work together towards a definite goal.

The student body at GGU is highly diverse, both socially and politically, and each group has their own view of the changes needed in the system. We are also crisis

ALAN SILVER (con't)

oriented, which only feeds any controversies. This must be changed as much as is possible.

Through my two years at GGU, and through my current involvement in the Evaluations Committee controversy, as a student on the committee, I have taken on a total perspective to the role of the SBA.

The SBA must foster discussion, and controversy if necessary, so that all concerned groups and individuals get a full and fair chance to persuade the other sides of their positions. We must end our crisis orientation and work with continual momentum at making ourselves "reality oriented". The school is constantly, and thus the processes must always be scrutinized to assure their relevance.

We must also commit ourselves to reaching out even further into the Bay Area communities and making our presence felt. We will benefit the community, and we will benefit ourselves by establishing GGU as a high-caliber, actively concerned legal resource. Result: More Jobs.

Those of you who I have not spoken with during the recent problem relating to the Evaluation Committee probably don't know me. This will be our primary contact. I can only emphasize what I have said and add that my objectives and goals are in line with my concern and commitment. Become involved: Voting is the 1st step in seeking true representation.

VICE-PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES

Night

AMALIA C. ATTRUIA

I will attend the SBA meetings with the specific intent to represent the interests and wishes of the night law students.

Day

KAREN D. KADUSHIN

It has been said that GGU is run by committees. If this is true, it should be no surprise to us that the student body at large has no real voice in the government. The committees are composed of student members (who change every year) and faculty members (who go on and on and on).

(con't next page)

VICE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES

KAREN D. KADUSHIN (con't)

As a result, by the time the student members know how the committees operate, important decisions have been made without any discussion or feed-back from the student body as a whole. The way to strengthen the student position on committees is for the entire student body to be represented by the student members. This can only happen if and when the entire student body is consulted on the policies, standards, long-term goals, and day-to-day decisions of committees before they are made.

I support the institution of a monthly forum on a continuing basis. Every month the policies of one committee would be exposed and discussed. All members of that committee would attend.

I support the posting and/or publication of minutes and reports from each committee for every meeting within a week after the meeting is held.

I support an SBA investigation of why the shit always hits the fan right before finals.

I appreciate your support.

IAN MACRAE

Why should you elect me to the SBA VP? I'm not going to make any promises or talk about any hot issues in this statement. I never have liked listening to politicians because they always seem to say what they think you want to hear. It's easy to pick up on an issue that is popular and ride it to office, but what happens after that issue has run its course and the next one has come along? Who have you really elected?

Basically my reasons for running are selfish ones. I'd like to experience the perspective that I imagine would be available from the VP position. And the power to poke my nose in where certain processes are underway. And to ask questions I haven't really thought of yet. Information and experience are what I'm really after.

But how would that help the SBA? Well it might not. I'd be the one with the information and experience. I've always wondered if it would make any difference to be there while it was happening instead of finding out later.

SECRETARY

BONNIE MALY

As a voting member of the SBA, I would not assume that because I'm elected I could decide issues without feedback from the rest of the students. This is only possible if the student body is well informed in advance about issues before the SBA officers. For major issues only I propose general assembly meetings in which the officers present the problem and immediately discover from discussion what interests exist in this polymorphic student body.

I am committed to investigating what the school administration is doing about internal scholarships through endowments. I will also work to provide more financial information about external sources: state scholarships, private grants-in-aid, and foundations. I think it unfair that Golden Gate students have to research all of these individually, when most school financial aid offices provide this material routinely.

TREASURER

ART SWENSON

STUDENT REPRESENTATION

1) There is a compelling need to achieve a larger proportion of voting student representatives on the FSC. As a constructive move toward this goal, I propose there should be an elected, at-large rep from each class. I also propose the Budget Committee become a fully accredited (voting) FSC committee. These changes would add three student votes and help to achieve a better mix of students and faculty members than the current ratio of three faculty to one student.

2) The tuition increase, the staggered tuition for next year and the Segal affair have again pointed up the need for making further improvements in the twin problem areas of communication and representation. Steps can and must be taken to eliminate, in so far as possible, the lack of notification of impending major decisions to permit discussion of the issues prior to the making of final decisions; and, of timing to avoid exam or vacation period decision making. Better scheduling of the annual budget/tuition review and other such issues, and pre-decision announcements that such items are under consideration are not difficult to implement; the real question is why these steps have not been taken before.

(con't on next page)

S.B.A. DUES

At present there are six organizations whose funds are allocated from S.B.A Dues: Women's Association; Guild; Caveat; P.A.D.; Sports and the Affirmative Action Committee. Whether these and/or other separate groups should continue to be supported by the S.B.A. Treasury is a question that needs to be answered - on an organization-by-organization basis- by the student body at large. The only group activity of purely S.B.A. sponsorship is the annual picnic; other similar (or dissimilar) activities can be arranged if there is sufficient interest, and if there are sufficient funds available for them. I propose these issues be presented to the student body in a special referendum, with the results thereof determinative of the financial function of the S.B.A. and of the activities to which the S.B.A. shall provide financing in the future.

SECOND YEAR REPRESENTATIVE

MICHAEL L. MAROWITZ

After five months as a first year rep to SBA I am encouraged that students are coming forward in large numbers to voice their concerns. For too long, discussion of school policy has been limited to too few. Communication and dialogue among students is essential if students are to present a strong posture before and when disputes arise.

The school faculty will be influenced by carefully articulated student positions. Recent decisions, however, seem to reflect an attitude that very few students need to be consulted prior to decisions. Furthermore, labeling policies as administrative ignores their obvious political repercussions. If this approach is to change, broader student participation is required.

I believe such participation is forthcoming, and I am ready to work toward an effective student force which embodies the interests of all students.

FACULTY- STUDENT COUNCIL AT-LARGE REP

JOHN HARRIGAN

Currently a second year student I am running for the position of at large representative to the FSC. As a member of the Academic Standards Committee, I am currently involved, with the other members of the committee, in formulating standards and retention policies. Open hearings were held in December at which several student groups and individuals urged particular reforms or policies to be followed. As we approach the drafting stage within the committee, I would urge any student to contact me or other student members should they wish to add further to the debate.

As a committee member who has voted, on a rotating basis, at FSC meetings it has become apparent that present situation is not in the best interests of the student body. Voting members should be directly elected and not be student members of committees picked by the SBA. As at large representative, I would do my utmost to reflect student opinion as a whole and would make use of the referendum for any major issue. I am most interested in continuing to put some energy into advocating student positions as I am most dissatisfied with the record of the past year of student representation - particularly that of the SBA whose president did not see fit to even discuss the merits of staggered tuition at the last faculty meeting, and so voted.

If you don't like what went down at the FSC this year then get out (or stay in) and vote, or next year, as Jerry Garcia would note, you won't win for losing. If you vote, vote for me and you might just see some strong student advocacy at the FSC for a change.

HOWARD MOSKOWITZ

GGU likes to project itself as a progressive law school. In significant areas, there can be no doubt that it is far ahead of other schools. But all too often, students are confronted with remnants of the old, "traditional" way. As a second-year rep to the SBA this year, I have worked to bring the reality of school policy into line with our image.

I have sponsored SBA resolutions calling on the FSC to hold public rather than secret meetings and to create an additional student position on that body. (Both these resolutions were scheduled to be voted on by the FSC last Thursday.) I authored the SBA protest to the

Dean after she responded to outside pressure and decreed that the Women's Association letter not be sent to prospective women applicants. Following our successful

fight last summer to retain minority students who were originally bounced by the Academic Standards Committee, I have pushed for the adoption of a humane retention policy which, while maintaining high academic standards, would offer all students every opportunity to complete law school. (This issue is still unresolved). I proposed the SBA resolution calling for a thorough public airing of the Bernie Segal matter. On a less earth-shattering matter, I persevered in an ultimately successful effort to get a change machine in the library.

I am running for FSC rep so that I can consistently and directly raise important issues where it counts -- in the body which governs the law school. There is one pivotal issue that I will raise over and over again: before the FSC takes any action which will have a major impact on students, the proposal must be communicated to the entire student body. Faits accomplis must end, particularly regarding tuition increases. Also, we must reinstate equalized tuition for all students. Fairness demands it.

I am confident that I can fairly represent the diverse interests of GGU students. After two years of heavy involvement in school affairs, I think I can provide an effective student voice on the FSC. I ask for your vote.

JOANNE SCHULMAN & ROSARIO BACON

We are running jointly for the 1-vote position of FSC Rep-at-large. There is a particularly valid reason for 2 people filling this position, even tho we have but 1 vote. The FSC Rep will be a directly elected representative of the student body, rather than an indirect rep as the students now on the FSC are (i.e. appointed by SBA). We see this position as analogous to that of the voting FSC students from the various committees (which have 3 students for 1 vote)-- except our "committee" is the entire student body. Representing the full student body is a lot of work and a large constituency to canvass, and 2 people could reach more students on FSC issues and facilitate greater student participation in the FSC.

Our primary purpose in running for this position is that we feel it is grossly unfair to have uneven power distribution (numbers) of students and faculty on the FSC. (con't)

If the faculty would like a "Faculty Comm./ Club" then let them be upfront about it. "Token" students are not enough to justify calling this present committee the "FSC". It is long overdue for students at GGU to stop being patronized by faculty deciding whether to allow more discussion of student issues (e.g. tuition increases) -- especially as we are paying the bills (salaries!).

Our other main priority will be the hiring of a minority professor to fill one of the 2 full-time open faculty positions. GGU is the only nationally accredited Bay Area law school that does not have a minority professor in its employ. We refuse to condone this racist policy. Therefore, as FSC Rep we will actively oppose the hiring of another non-minority faculty member.

We refuse to get embroiled in the "Staggered tuition" issue. We view this as an issue meant to keep students at each others' throats rather than addressing the real problem -- a \$12 increase per unit. This is outrageous, even given inflation! As a united student body, we would have more power screaming about \$12 rather than squabbling over \$2 decrease which would accrue to 1st year students if there were an across-the-board increase. 2nd year students are not 1st years student's enemy -- the administration is both year's problem!

Our last "plank" has to do with GGU Law Review. We feel, that instead of giving SBA Pres. free tuition, this money would be better spent going to the Law Review. Also, any money that the LR brings in as it expands should go back to the LR and not to the general school's budget. The LR, like the new building, is an asset to all GGU law students. Even more than the new building, LR can have an effect on current students by firmly establishing GGU's presence & reputation among the practicing legal community. By increasing LR's budget, more students could publish & LR could expand, thereby benefitting all GGU law students.

DUES INCREASE ** ORGANIZATIONS' POSITIONS

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION COMMITTEE

The primary function of the Affirmative Action Committee is recruiting, retaining, and matriculating third world students. We accomplish these activities partly through funds provided by the SBA, and partly through our collective efforts. For the academic year 1975-76, our budget totalled \$960, for the three students groups, Blacks, Chicanos, and Asians. We received \$300 from the SBA, approximately 31% of our projected needs.

Although the increase will fall heavy upon those least able to pay, we wholeheartedly support the raising of dues from \$2 to \$4. If the AAC is to remain a viable organization, we must have sufficient operating funds.

Ira S. Bracken
Chairman
Affirmative Action Comm.

NATIONAL LAWYER'S GUILD

PROPOSED BUDGET 1976-77

General Chapter Budget:

- 1) Conspiracy subscriptions - \$100
Guild newspaper, large numbers dropped at school and library monthly
- 2) Films and speakers - \$175
Speakers and films of our foreign delegations (Cuba, China . . .)
- 3) Duplicating and supplies . . . 75

Project budgets:

- 1) Senate Bill One 150
Speakers, advertising, leafletting campaign, duplication and supplies, mailings & trans.
- 2) Unemployment Project 150
Leaflet on unemployment rights, rent, mileage to & from hearings.
- 3) United Farmworkers Project 150
Mileage for travel to Salinas & Central Valleys; films; speakers; leaflets; duplication.
- 4) Habeas Project 100
Stationary and stamps to facilitate communication with prisoners; phones; duplicating.

TOTAL BUDGET \$ 900

The above projects occupy the central focus of the GGU Chapter, but NLG members here also work in a variety of Guild projects in conjunction with other law schools and organizations. The NLG offers the law student an opportunity to put his/her politics into action in working for human rights,

sharpen perspectives through continuing discussion of important issues, develop healthy relationships in the legal community, and combat the fatigue common with the study of law.

P.A.D.

P.A.D. is a law student service association that seeks to provide a forum for exposure of students to practicing attorneys of various fields and law enforcement officials. All law students are always urged to participate.

This spring, programs relating to visits to correction facilities and informal group seminars are planned. The informal lawyer's night seminars, where students and attorneys can have first person exchanges outside the classroom environment have proved popular.

In addition, P.A.D. is seeking to initiate a more personalized orientation for first year students that would include a faculty-student get-together, a housing and roommate information service, and a discussion of GGU's history and policies as directed toward the law student.

Next fall, a guest speaker series is tentatively planned. Prominent judges, attorneys, and law enforcement officials will speak on various topics to the student body.

P.A.D. feels that continued S.B.A funding of the above activities contributes directly to the quality of the education of all law students.

CAVEAT

CAVEAT this year received \$918 from the SBA. This is more than any other organization and in fact a substantial portion of the entire SBA budget. Nonetheless, we have had to economize in areas that we would prefer not to. In order to stay within our budget we have at various times found it necessary to eliminate articles, skip editions, and print less copies than were needed.

Next year the Caveat would like to publish every week. We would like to include every article or letter submitted by any student, other pertinent material, and we want to circulate enough copies that anyone who desires can obtain one. We suspect printing costs will rise again this year. All this mean that the Caveat will need an even larger budget next year.

We hope to continue to do a good job in serving the needs of the students. We realize the financial crisis upon all the students at GGU and we will do our utmost to keep our budget reasonable. We support the \$2 raise in the student fee.

