

SG votes 11-8 against re-election

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Student Government voted 11-8 not to nullify the 2001 election results and have a re-election Monday. The decision came after more than three hours of debates and comments from SG members, candidates, university officials and students.

The meeting opened with remarks from Dr. Cynthia Anderson, vice president, Student Affairs. Anderson addressed SG on what she called "major concerns" surrounding the election.

Anderson said "the voice of the students needs to be heard and considered." She cited controversies over write-in candidates, lack of mechanisms in the case of a tie in elections and people being left off the ballot and how to resolve that issue.

Anderson also said she was disappointed with the manner in which the special meeting held April 19 was conducted.

At that meeting, Anderson said that during her notes for the time when SG members each had an opportunity to speak for two minutes, "the words 'I,' 'me' and 'my' were used 111 times." She said SG should not be conducted in a personalized manner.

"It is not about you," she said.



PHOTO BY CHUCK ROGERS/ THE JAMBAR

CONTROVERSY: Dr. Cynthia Anderson addresses SG Monday regarding the recent election controversy.

"It is about Student Government and the rights of the students. It is about Student Government doing the will and wishes of the individuals who elected you. ... 'I,' 'me' and 'my' are way out of place."

"I'm asking you to consider your actions and what the folks out there have brought to you as concerns," she added.

Jackie Trimacco, chair of the elections committee, cleared up voting discrepancies in the William

Rayen College of Engineering and Technology and in the Bitonte College of Health and Human Services. Trimacco said a hand recount took place to resolve the discrepancies. The results of the election did not change, she noted, but the numbers that the candidates for representatives won by did.

Jonathon Zacharias received 33 votes, Jennifer Mansfield

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received 19 votes and Gregory Panuccio received 17.

In the BCHHS, Jeffery Parks received 38 votes, Carries Hess received 36 votes and Neelam Ghiya received 22 votes.

Trimacco also apologized to Parks for comments she had made against him.

Student Trustee Molly McGovern, junior, telecommunications and geography, addressed SG and said that as a trustee, she rec-

ommended a re-election based on the same ballot.

After lengthy debate, in which SG members, students and administrators discussed the difficulties of holding new elections, the legality of the results from the April 18 and 19 elections, resolutions for the tie situation and problems with candidates being left off the ballots, SG voted on a motion to rule the results from the previous election as null and void.

SG voted by secret ballot on the issue. The motion failed, with eight members for passing the motion and 11 against the motion, with two abstentions.

After the motion was resolved, students who attended the meeting were able to react to the governing body's decision.

Several students, such as Nancy Mollenkoph, junior, combined sciences, spoke against SG's decision to vote by secret ballot.