Students gather to watch election night proceedings

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VOTE

U.S. Senate upset over sudden budget cuts

By Joe Ferguson
Arizona Daily Wildcat

Several faculty members criticized UA administrators for lack of notice regarding the 7 percent across-the-board budget cuts during yesterday’s Faculty Senate meeting.

The Committee of Eleven, a group of elected faculty members, released a three-page report in July 2004 outlining its concerns about the budget cuts.

The Committee of Eleven speaks for the general faculty and its main purpose is to look at problems concerning the faculty and the university.

JD Garcia, chairman for the Committee of Eleven, said while the cuts were devastating, the committee wants to ensure there would be no more “June surprises.” The cuts were announced last June and affected all academic and non-academic university departments and programs.

Our primary concern was for the president and the provost to set up mechanisms so it will not recur,” Garcia said.

Garcia, a physics professor, said his department will need to trim $37,000 from its budget to comply with the 2 percent cuts.

“We do the easy thing, 10 graduate teaching assistants would be reduced,” Garcia said.

Garcia said without those teaching assistants, 30 physics lab classes would be cancelled.

“I half the people waiting to take physics labs would have been turned away,” he said.

Garcia said the physics department had not made any decisions on how to deal with the budget cuts.

“If we were told in March, it would have been much easier,” Garcia said. “It is important to set up mechanisms to protect us from these surprises.”

Garcia said the committee received a written response to

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Non-voting students cite lack of faith in presidential candidates

By Kylee Dawson
Arizona Daily Wildcat

Some UA students are not voting today because they do not believe either presidential candidate can implement positive change for the United States.

William Dixon, professor and head of the political science department, said the early deadline for voter registration, being too new, and being misrepresented about voting are three major reasons some students might not vote.

“Typically there are barriers, and the barriers to voting are usually more severe to young people than they are for others,” Dixon said.

When the local FOX News channel reported that it was illegal for out of state college students to register in Tucson, several students were not informed that this report was untrue and did not register to vote.

Dixon said.

Opposition from a psychology student, said he is not voting today because he doesn’t believe his vote will make a difference in the outcome of the election.

“I feel like I’m choosing between the lesser of two evils,” Garity said. “I don’t have much faith in our political system.”

Garity, 25, said he was raised by politically active Democratic parents, but is not registered to vote because he is not interested in politics.

“There’s a sense in which your vote doesn’t really count very much in these states where the race is already set-tled,” Dixon said. “I could go vote for John Kerry and I’m pretty sure that he’s not going to win Arizona. So that’s one of the things that many people believe is a problem with the electoral college system.”

Even though Democratic candidate Al Gore won the popular vote in the 2000 election, George W. Bush won the presidency and, therefore, Garity said he doesn’t believe the popular vote matters.

“It is certainly true that there’s relatively a little probability that a single individual’s vote will determine the outcome of an election,” Dixon said. “If that’s the only reason you have to vote, it would be a disappointing experience.”

Philosophy doctorate student Chris Brown, 35, is from South Hamptrton, England, but has lived in the United States since 1981 and is a permanent resident.

Brown chose not to become a U.S. citizen because he does not believe the democratic voting system is useful, because people should vote on policies rather than people.

“The only reason I would want citizenship is to vote, but I just don’t

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