On Friday, March 27, election results were announced. It was shared that Navid Nematollahi, with 806 (50.28%) votes, was disqualified from the office of Student Body President and that Mark Blackwell, with 779 (48.60%) of the votes, was therefore the winner. Further, it was announced that Kat Pohlman, with 865 (54.37%) votes was also disqualified and that Charles Soden, with 707 (45.07%) votes was the winner for the office of Student Body Vice President. This was posted as required. The results were appealed on the basis that:

This appeal of the election results was received March 28, 2009

> In the Spring Election Information Packet it states under "Required Votes," "Candidates and write-in candidates for Student Body President and Student Body Vice President must receive a simple majority of votes (50% +1)." This did not occur. As the decisions currently stand, Nematollahi and Pohlman are disqualified while Blackwell and Soden did not earn positions. Blackwell received 48.60% and Soden received 45.07% of the votes.

The Elections Appeals Committee convened on Monday, March 30th. A motion was made to hold a run-off election since there was not a 50% + 1 majority achieved by the remaining candidates in good standing as required by the election policy. The motion carried.

Following this decision, petitions and communications were received from students expressing concern that their voices were not being heard in a democratic process.

Given the fact that the SGA Elections Packet does not outline procedures for these specific circumstances, the SGA Elections Board and Elections Appeals Committee recommendations will be presented to the SGA Legislature at special session to be held on Thursday, April 2 at 7:30pm in the Masonboro Island Room of the Fisher Student Center. These ***recommendations*** will be made via formal legislation.

The SGA Elections Board Committee and SGA Elections Appeals Committee *propose* that the elections procedures be amended. Should this legislation pass with the support of the SGA legislature, the run-off election will proceed as follows:

Polls will open for a run-off election including current on-ballot candidates in good standing (i.e. not disqualified) and write-in candidates at 12:01am Friday April 3, 2009 and close at 3:00pm that same day. Violation forms will be due at 3:30pm on Friday, April 3, 2009 to the Campus Activities & Involvement Center. Correct and complete campaign expenditure forms are due from all candidates, both official and write-in by 12:00pm Friday, April 3, 2009. Unless it has been specifically amended, all other policies as outlined in the Elections Packet will stand.

There should be no new campaign activity until an election is actually announced by the SGA.

Should this legislation not pass, the election results as announced on Friday, March 27th will stand.

Stay tuned to the SGA website for further updates: www.uncw.edu/sga. We do not anticipate any formal announcements until after our meeting concludes Thursday evening.

Thank you,

Brian DesRoches, Senior Class President & SGA Elections Board Chair
Anthony Gregorious, SGA Treasurer & SGA Elections Appeal Committee Chair