

Facebook: Web site becomes outlet for elections humor, complaints

Continued from page 1

into votes. About 7,580 students currently have Thefacebook profiles, but only 2,960 students voted in the primary election.

Ashley Rees and Jael Anker-Lagos' group has 232 members, but received 907 votes to win the primary. Candidates Adam Walsh and Kyla Coy have only 30 members in their group, but received 455 votes in the contest.

Third-place candidates Jacob Daniels and Adi Cargni have the most members with 712 listed supporters. Yet the ticket received 22 votes less than Walsh's campaign.

Daniels said it is "tough to say" what effect Thefacebook had on the election, although he expected it to work "a little better" than it did. He said it was a good way to get students interested, but not necessarily the best way to get them to vote.

Daniels added that some students were in multiple candidates' groups.

"The loyalty really wasn't there on Facebook," he said.

How to vote

ASUO general elections run through Friday. Students must log into their DuckWeb accounts at duckweb.uoregon.edu to vote.

Students can vote for all general and at-large candidates but will only be able to vote for academic senators running for the seat related to their majors. Each student can vote only once. Students must vote by 5 p.m. Friday.

Students can vote from any computer with access to DuckWeb. Campus locations include:

- EMU Computer Lab
- Knight Library Information Technology Center
- McKenzie Hall Computer Lab

The Evan Geier-David Goward and Anthony Caruso-Robbie McEachern tickets both have 255 members, but Geier received 250 votes compared with Caruso's 171 votes.

Candidates Nick Hudson and Allison Sprouse have 117 members.

Rees told the Emerald that Thefacebook is "kind of an innovation," but it doesn't replace talking with students on the street.

"Our take on it is that the most important thing in an election and for the ASUO in general is having contact with students," she said. "Facebook's fun; I like Facebook, but for campaigning we want to make sure we're actually building a bridge with students and communicating with students."

Anker-Lagos added that it's a "great way to gather contact information."

Coy said the Internet phenomenon is useful for political campaigns, but hasn't had a big effect on the local level.

Walsh said Thefacebook can be a

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar displaying http://oregon.thefacebook.com/search.php?all_fields=0&do_search. The page title is "Thefacebook | Search". The search results show "Searched for all groups that have names containing exec. Displaying all 8 matches." The results list several groups, each with a profile picture, name, and buttons for "View Group" and "Join Group". The groups listed are:

- Name: Adam & Kyla For ASUO exec.
- Name: ASHLEY AND Jael FOR ASUO EXEC
- Name: Doug and Pat For ASUO Exec
- Name: Evan & David 4 ASUO Exec
- Name: Harold and Kumar For asuo Exec
- Name: I'm Tired of People Begging Me For asuo Exec on Facebook
- Name: Jacob and Adi For ASUO Exec!

On the left side of the page, there is a "quick search" box and a list of links: My Profile [edit], My Friends, My Groups, My Parties, My Messages, My Away Message, My Mobile Info, My Account, and My Privacy. Below this is a section titled "Join the Apple Group on Thefacebook!" with a link to "Click Here for student discounts every day. iPod Shuffle giveaway every week. Join Apple's Student Gallery and show off your photos, movies, and more." At the bottom of the left sidebar is the text "Work. Play. Apple."

Since it began on Feb. 4, 2004, Thefacebook.com has become a popular mode of communication among college students and recently became a tool for ASUO campaigners.

great tool to let students know who's running, but it is "ludicrous" to think that because someone accepts an invitation to join a group that they will actually vote.

The Daniels-Cargni ticket also spent \$40 for advertising on Thefacebook, according to financial paperwork filed by the candidates. Advertisements currently cost \$13 for University students and are viewed about 40,000 each day, according to

Thefacebook.com.

Daniels said the rationale behind the ads was to encourage students to vote online if they were already on a computer.

"It was another attempt to grab the attention of other people who didn't have their minds made up," he said.

Daniels said he recently sent a message to all his group members urging them to vote for Walsh in the general election this week, noting

that Thefacebook "might still affect the election to some extent."

More recently, the "Just say NO to Ashley and Jael" group has attracted 35 members.

A group dedicated to EMU wind energy Ballot Measure 21, which received a majority of the primary vote, has 830 fewer members than votes it received.

Thefacebook has also provided an outlet for students to continue the

tradition of joke candidacies, such as "Mechagodzilla For ASUO President!," "Eric and Gray For asuo Copresidents," "Doug and Pat For ASUO Exec" and fictional movie characters "Harold and Kumar For asuo Exec."

Students use the groups to express other sentiments as well, such as "I'm Tired of People Begging Me For asuo Exec on Facebook."

parkerhowell@dailyemerald.com

Where do you wanna go eat?

The Glenwood.

Our burgers are
antibiotic-free,
hormone-free.

2588 Willamette St. 541-687-8201
340 Alder St. 541-687-0355

Stressed about schoolwork?

Don't stress over your housing for next year.

Let Duck's Village help!

1, 2, 3 & 4 Bedroom Furnished Apartments

Individual Leases, Great Location

Lots of Great Amenities - Come See For Yourself!



Now Leasing
for 2005-2006
Stop by Today!



Newly
Renovated!

3225 Kinsrow Avenue, Eugene (541) 485-7200
Office & Models Open Mon-Fri 8-5 and Sat 9-3

www.ducksvillage.com