Election Debate Leaves Two Clear Choices

Debate Hindered By Rowdy Supporters

By Habib Reez
Editor-in-chief

The field of four contenders for the soon-to-be-vacant Undergraduate Student Government was unofficially cut down to two after April 5's debate. Instead of serving as a forum where issues relevant to the student body were to be discussed, the debate turned out to be a raucous rally for the most popular parties.

C.U.R.E, The Campus Party, and United Undergraduates for Better Jobs are the three parties running for this week's elections, taking place April 24 through 26. Kashon Jun is running as an independent. The three party presidents, as well as Jun, were given an opportunity to present their party's platforms in front of an audience of about 100 people in the window lounge of the 350 Park Avenue South Building. Each candidate was allowed five minutes to quickly present his party and its platform to the audience. Based on crowd support, at this point, it is clear that this has become a two-horse race.

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Candidates Stress Focal Points One Last Time

David Martinez
Managing Editor

In this time of relocation and change, Baruch College turns its attention to four candidates competing to represent the new regime of power in the Undergraduate Student Government (U.S.G.) in this year's debate.

Candidates Edward Ellis of the Campus Party, Independent candidate Kashon Jun, Dan Reitberg of the United Baruch for Better Jobs party (UBBJ), and Kaleem Qureshi of College Undergraduates Reinventing Education (C.U.R.E) sat down with mediators Bisirat Yohannes of The Ticker, and Vanessa Singh of The Reporter to give their take on the pressing issues concerning the student body.

Festivities kicked off around 6:00 p.m. as students began to file into the window lounge on the 15th Floor of the 26th street building. The area came alive with buzzing conversations, and moral support was heard all around from backers of the respective candidates. Naturally, the divisions within the room became very apparent, as the constituencies of each party quickly made their niches. Nevertheless, the anticipation to hear from the runners united all.

The turnout for this year's debate exceeded expectations. According to a custodian only wanting to be referred to as " Lem," who has been working at Baruch for eleven years, the comparative attendance to past debates was "impressive." Clearly, the tumultuous state of Baruch affairs attracted the student body to hear what was to be said.

"I am a night student, and I just cut out of work early to hear their plans to represent people like me," said junior Daniel Lewis. "It's an easy way to be informed without having to hunt down facts yourself."

Moderator Bisirat Yohannes officially began the debates with a warm welcome to all in attendance, along with an introduction of the moderators, the candidates and an overview of the debate. Once everyone was properly informed of the debate's structure, the candidates were given eight minutes to give their introductions, and mission statements.

Each candidate stressed the need to build bridges of communication, not only with students and administration, but amongst students themselves. All also agreed that expanding on the technological front through computers would help get the wheels in motion to friend the word out on Baruch.

Reitberg, the first candidate called on to speak, set these two issues in motion as the debates began.

"We are trying to promote the name of Baruch within the national and international business sectors to heighten awareness of Baruch, and, in effect, gain better job opportunities for Baruch graduates," states Reitberg. "We would also like to get media attention for Baruch which could be gained by having news worthy events to draw the media here, and have people aware of Baruch.

Reitberg emphasized the need for media recognition as a "necessity." "We need to have the media at Baruch," and, Reitberg, "I will work closely with the Baruch publicity department to get the word out on us." Reitberg felt that this would help get the wheels in motion to curb what he labeled the "decimation of communication" in Baruch.

Along with the growth of the Baruch College name, Reitberg proposed to advance Baruch on the technological front through an "easy, user friendly website." Once that is established, proposed mass e-mail communication systems and an online forum would keep students informed.

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Candidates Stress Building Bridges

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Raucous Party Debate Hinder Debate

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Daniel Reitberg, president of University Senate, who has been supporting candidates Kaleem Qureshi and Kason Jun, said that after the debate, he would have a decision made.

"Qureshi seemed to have been the clear winner," Reitberg said. "He had the students on his side, and the students are the most important people to us." Reitberg added that Qureshi had also been more vocal in his campaign and had a better grasp of the issues.

Qureshi, who was running as an independent candidate, said that he was pleased with his performance and that he had listened to the students' concerns.

"I think I did well," Qureshi said. "I made some good points and I hope that the students will vote for me." Qureshi added that he would be working hard to win the election.

Jun, who was running as a member of the C.U.R.E. party, said that he was disappointed with his performance and that he needed to work harder to win the election.

"I think I did not do well," Jun said. "I made some mistakes and I need to work harder." Jun added that he would be working hard to win the election.

Both candidates said that they would be working hard to win the election and that they would be listening to the students' concerns.

"We need to listen to the students," Qureshi said. "We need to work hard to win the election." Qureshi added that he would be working hard to win the election.

Jun also said that he would be working hard to win the election.

"I need to work hard to win the election," Jun said. "I need to listen to the students and I need to work hard." Jun added that he would be working hard to win the election.

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From Friends to Foes: A Tale of Two Candidates

By Hassan Celikoo

As the elections for Baruch's Undergraduate Student Government draw near, students technically have four options. In reality, this is a non-choice because of the ongoing feuds between the Campus Party (CP), headed by Edward Ellis, and College Republicans (CR), headed by Kaleern Qureshi. It seems likely that the factions will continue to splinter the student government. If nothing changes, the student body here might as well be run by the yearbook committee.

The student government is often evoked as a metaphor for the Baruch student body as a whole. There are some who think that the government sufficiently represents the student body, while others feel that there is a significant gap between us and the student government. The issue of representation is not new to the Baruch community, and it is one that must be addressed if we are to make progress towards a more united Baruch.

While it is true that the student government has not always been successful, it is also important to consider the role of the student body in shaping the government. The government is not simply a reflection of the student body, but rather a creation of the student body. As such, it is the responsibility of the student body to hold the government accountable and to work towards making it a more effective and representative institution.

One candidate for the position of Student Body President, Qureshi, has already promised to improve the student government. He has called for a more inclusive approach to decision-making and has pledged to work towards creating a more democratic and representative government. However, Qureshi's promises must be met with skepticism, as the student government has been marked by a lack of transparency and accountability in the past.

Another candidate, Ellis, has proposed a more conservative approach to governance. He has called for a return to the principles of the past and has emphasized the importance of maintaining the status quo. However, it is unclear how such an approach would be received by the student body, which has shown a desire for change in recent years.

In conclusion, it is clear that the student government is in need of reform and that the student body has a significant role to play in shaping the future of the government. As we move forward, it is important that we work towards creating a more inclusive, transparent, and representative government that truly reflects the needs and aspirations of the student body.
Going Down the List

Having to decide who will hold the student government for the next year can be quite a task, especially for the notorious Baruch student body - the same student body that does not have time to care about each other or their state of government. Perhaps this is why it is the media's responsibility to inform those who do not or can not make the time to make their beloved institutions better.

Running in this year’s election are three parties – C.U.R.E, The Campus Party, and United Baruch for Better Jobs. The third runner is an independent candidate by the name of Kashon Jones. While it appears that the slate is pretty full, the list of four can be quickly cut down to three. The independent candidate is one to be taken lightly, entering into an area of politics that he believed would be nothing more than fun and games. While it may be fun to run for the Undergraduate Student Government, on behalf of the student body is nothing to be taken lightly.

The slate is further shorten when Don Reitberg, president of United Baruch for Better Jobs, is ruled out of the picture. Although he appears to be a much more serious contender than Jones, his view of creating an Internet campus to solve all real life problems is less than inviting. While his desire to promote Baruch’s name through various media events is something that should not be ignored, his lack of experience boggles us to lesser RequestContext.

And then there are two. Two parties that have the potential to run USG in a manner that may prove beneficial to the students of Baruch. The popular party, based on the reaction of the crowd at the USG debate, C.U.R.E, appears poised to take the election. With loud and raucous support, the only thing that appears poised to take the election. With loud and raucous support, the only thing that appears poised to take the election. With loud and raucous support, the only thing that appears poised to take the election. With loud and raucous support, the only thing that appears poised to take the election.
Baruch College

Student Government

Elections

Undergraduate Elections:
Tues., Apr. 24 thru Thurs., Apr. 26
10:00 AM to 8:00 PM
Lobby / E. 25th Street.

Graduate Elections:
Internet Balloting from 12:01 AM on April 23 until
12:00 AM on April 26 @ www.iballot.com.
If you have not received voting instructions by mail,
contact: Student Life, 1512 / 360 PAS.