Senate hears Election committee

BY KAREN SAGSTETTER
Thresher Reporter

The new Student Senate met for the first time Tuesday, April 11 and approved April 20 as the date of the next election.

The following offices will be contested: Student Association vice-president, Student Association treasurer, one fifth year Honor Council post, chairman of the Inter-College Court, senior class president and secretary-treasurer; junior class vice president and secretary-treasurer; sophomore class president and secretary-treasurer.

A run-off between Liane Rundle and Joe Mims for Student Center Board chairman will also be held. The editor of the Campanile will be elected.

Classes Challenged

Two referenda will appear on the ballot. The amendment to abolish class offices, except those of the senior class, would then make the classes dependent organizations of the Student Association.

In the event that the classes wish to organize for any purpose, they would be legally able to do so, but formal election of class offices for freshman, sophomore, and junior classes would be eliminated beginning in the spring of 1968.

The other referendum would raise the blanket tax appropriation for the Senate from $1.75 per person to $2.50.

Election Referred

The old Senate approved the results of last week’s all-school election, except in the race for Thresher editor. That contest was referred to the Inter-College Court for an opinion, according to a by-law change passed early Tuesday night.

Under previous provisions, the Election Committee was required to “certify to the Student Senate the validity of each election and request its approval in whole or in part by the Senate.”

Majority Questioned

A written report prepared by the election committee prior to the meeting certified the validity of the election of Darrell Hancock as Thresher Editor, and recommended that the Senate approve the election. When Charles Schade, election committee chairman, made his motion of approval, however, he did not recommend approval in this race.

The election committee’s written report explained their decisions on the two issues for which the election had been contested. The first issue concerned a majority vote.

Hancock’s plurality had been nine votes, but since nine write-in ballots had been cast, he had apparently only received exactly half of the votes, and lacked a majority by one vote. The committee decided, however, that as at least five of the write-in votes had been improperly cast or cast for ineligible candidates, according to precedent set in 1964 they should be disqualified and not counted as “votes cast.”

Electioneering?

Hancock’s majority thus be-
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(Continued from Page 1) came 414 votes out of a maximum of 823 votes cast.

Investigation into alleged electioneering at the polls in Jones college had revealed to the committee's satisfaction, according to its report, that claims were not sufficient to warrant invalidating the election.

Some Senators noted that the Senate was, by creating a by-law after the election had taken place and then using it to determine the results of the election, creating an ex post facto law. S. A. President Hafter pointed out, however, that the Senate has no specific constitutional provision outlawing ex post facto laws, as the U. S. Constitution has.

Winners

Election committee results approved were: Student Association president, Charles Shanor; S. A. secretary, Cindy Foster; Off-campus Senator, Charlie Myers; Councilman-at-Large, Richard Brown; Thresher Business Manager, Jerry Manheim; Campanile Business Manager, Mike Journeay; cheerleaders, Sandra Leigh, Linda Pike, Jerry Perry, and Paul Tobolowsky.

The new Intercollege Court constitution was accepted by the required majority.

Honor Council members from the senior class will be Craig Davis, Chris Gever, Vick Giles, and Bill Heaps; junior class representatives are Ed Douglas, Karen Sagstetter, and Mary Burton; sophomores are Pat Dawson and Jinks Wiggins; Steve Wood is the fifth year Honor Council member.

Class Officers

Class officers elected were Gail Drayton, senior class vice-president; Allen Spencer, junior class president; and Ann Olsen, sophomore class vice president.

Honorees are Sarah Bell, Doy Butler, Kathleen Davis, Peggy Goodwin, Lili Milani, Shirley Revis, Liane Rundle, and Paula Smith.

Interviews for positions on standing Student Senate committees will be held April 16. Interviews for student positions on the University committees were approved for April 23. (See story on page 7)

Charity Line

Charity committee chairman Mike Wood reported a net of $205.00 from the Senate sponsored faculty-student basketball game, carnival, and dance held April 5. The money will be used for improvement of public parks in Houston.