

MEMORANDUM

To: SSSP Board of Directors and Executive Director
From: Luis A. Fernandez, Chair, 2011-2012 SSSP Elections Committee
Re: 2011-2012 Elections Committee Report
Date: July 9, 2012

1. Serving on the Election Committee were Yvonne Luna, Meghan McDowell, and myself.
2. The 2011 Approved Nomination List was as follows: for President Elect – 5 names; for Vice- President Elect – 4 names; for Board of Directors (2 positions) – 9 names; for Student Representative to the Board of Directors – 8 names; for Budget, Finance, & Audit Committee – 5 names; for Committee on Committees (2 positions) – 11 names; for Editorial & Publications Committee (2 positions) – 12 names; for Membership & Outreach Committee (3 positions, 1 must be filled by graduate student) – 17 names for 2 positions and 1 additional name for the graduate student position. Each name on the list was ranked when we received it.
3. The Process: As Chair, I assigned different lists to different committee members. Each member was then tasked to call individuals on the list, starting with the top ranked name. All SSSP policies concerning the election process were followed. Nominees were contacted in rank order until the correct number of candidates for each position was found. Initially most nominees were contacted by e-mail. The initial e-mail listed the office/committee for which the person was nominated, the description of that office/committee from the SSSP Operations Manual, and the length of the term being considered, and the statement that the nominee would have to be a member of the SSSP during the entire term. If we did not hear from an individual after one reminder email, we then called the person. Each nominee was given two week to consider her/his decision. Nobody called me to talk about the positions.
4. I encountered no significant issues worth reporting. Nobody called me to talk about the positions and I only answered a few question via e-mail. This is likely due to the new process of having people already willing to serve by the time they end up on the list. It was an extremely efficient process.
5. Because I was nominated for vice presidency, I excused myself from any decision or process concerning that office, eliminating any conflict of interest.

6. Participation in Election Process: The total number of eligible to vote electronically was 1,818, with 125 additional members who requested not to vote in elections. The total number of voters this year was 402, with a participation rate of 21%. The represents a 1% increase from the previous year. In an effort to try to increase voting turnout, staff sent out four e-mail reminders to those who had not voted on: March 25, April 4, April 13, and April 15.

Thank you for allowing me to serve the Society,

Luis A. Fernandez

Chair, 2011-2012 Elections Committee