



A guide of the candidates for student body elections.

A&M turnout increases

Better-informed students, more polling sites contribute to growth

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THE BATTALION

This year's election is expected to have strong voter turnout, even more so than last year's 25 percent turnout of the student body in the general election, election officials say.

Jason Jaynes, elections commissioner and a junior computer science major, said Texas A&M had the highest percent voter turnout for colleges in the nation.

"A&M has one of the best voter turnouts," Jaynes said, "and the elections have improved immensely."

In last year's general election, 9,606 students voted. This was an increase of 5 percent from the 1994-1995 election, which had 8,034 voters.

Jaynes said last year's run-off elections brought about 2,000 voters.

In comparison to elections in the past, the 1990-1991 student body election had a low voter turnout of 1,752 students, 6 percent of the whole student body.

Jaynes said the tenfold increase is due to an improvement in the election process.

"The election commission has done a better job of informing the student body of elections," Jaynes said. "Candidates' campaigning has increased and, in turn, students have been encouraged to vote."

Jaynes said the addition of polling sites

WHERE TO VOTE

- SOUTHSIDE:** The Commons
Evans Library
The MSC
Zachry
- NORTHSIDE:** Blocker
The Underground
- WEST CAMPUS** The Wehner Building
Kleberg
Student Rec. Center

Campaign Home Page
<http://stuact.tamu.edu/stuorgs/ec/>

has also contributed to the increase in voter turnout. There are nine polling places for this year's election.

Students can vote at the Commons,

Zachary, Evans Library, Blocker, the MSC, the Underground, the Wehner Building, Kleberg and the Student Recreation Center.

The University of Texas had a voter turnout in this year's election of 4,080 students. This nine percent of the 48,000 enrolled students at UT compares to the 25 percent turnout in A&M's elections last year.

Becky Carreon, a staff member for the Student Government at UT, said their election in late February was an increased over previous elections.

The University of Houston had a low student voter turnout as well.

Theresa Coleman, a senior hotel management major at U of H and assistant for the Student Association, said this year's election for student government brought a turnout of seven percent with a total enrollment of 30,757 students.

A&M's students will elect their leaders Wednesday and Thursday for positions such as yell leaders, student body president, student senate and class council, and Resident Hall Association president.

Jaynes encouraged all students to continue increasing voter turnout by voting this week.

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