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Corbett-Wilson/Patel campaign win SGA executive amid challenges to validity of results



By MARK SATTER
mark29@umbc.edu
News Editor

On Monday, Bentley Corbett-Wilson and Mona Patel were announced as the winners of the Student Government Association presidency and vice-presidency for the 2016-2017 school year. Sanjum Singh was elected vice president for student organizations and Surovi Bain was elected treasurer. Wilson and Patel beat out rivals Tristan Oetker and Pandora Wilson by a 0.5 percent margin.

Bentley told *The Retriever*, "I'm incredibly thankful for all the support that we've gotten from everyone and I really do believe that Mona and I are going to do so many great things for SGA. I can't wait to see what the next year has in store for us."

Patel echoed the sentiment, saying, "I just want to thank everyone who supported us. We really want to make a change on this campus and this is

the way to go ... I'm speechless really ... congratulations to everyone who won and I can't wait to start making changes."

However, following the announcement an email was sent out by Election Board Chair Robert Caverly. Caverly wrote:

"Just as an FYI, the results released this afternoon were tentative and have not been verified by the Election Board as authentic yet since the official results from the poll have not been released ... At no point during the election was the [election] board able to see the results. In past years, the election board chair has had full access to these results in order to minor their authenticity."

In response to the email, Craig Berger, coordinator of student life for campus and civic engagement and advisor to the SGA, said, "I shared the results with Robert in the same way I've shared them with past Election Board chairs. I've also invited Robert to meet so he can verify the accuracy of the announced results."



COURTESY OF BENTLEY CORBETT-WILSON

Bentley and Mona will be inaugurated on Monday, May 9.

The election also served as a platform for voting on Proposition One, a piece of SGA legislation that has been a point of contention this semester. The proposition would allow for the

use of an instant-runoff voting system in future elections for SGA Executive Office. The proposition passed with 760 votes in favor, or 66.7 percent of the total.

Trouble at URCAD prompts apology from Hrabowski



By ADAM NG
adamng1@umbc.edu
Staff Writer

The Undergraduate Research and Creative Achievement Day is an annual event designed to showcase the hard work of UMBC undergraduate researchers. Students have the freedom to select a topic and showcase their discoveries to UMBC staff and students. However, the content and imagery of one topic in particular resulted in controversy.

Researcher Sarah Riley Auer, a senior ancient studies major, presented her poster, "Illustrating the Unseen: Analogy and Metaphor in an Ancient Gynecological Text" at this year's symposium. All was well, until her work was moved to a less prominent position because it displayed female anatomy. Auer and her poster were relegated to a far

back corner of the University Center Ballroom, making her work harder to see and henceforth ignored by many of the URCAD attendees.

Auer's research discusses the manuscripts left by ancient medical writer Soranus of Ephesus, specifically his work on female anatomy and gynecological studies, and how it relates to today's society and understanding of the female anatomy and women's medicine. However, URCAD officials had a complaint not with the the research itself, but with the image that senior INES major Zoe Wang provided, which, according to Auer, depicted Soranus of Ephesus' view of the female anatomy.

Although both Auer's and Wang's advisors cleared their work — as did the committee which accepts URCAD proposals — it wasn't until the night before the presentation that URCAD officials informed the two students that their work would be moved to the back of the room in the "Rated-R" section.

Auer was extremely confused by that decision. Accord-

ing to her, "considering that no one responsible for the decision [to move the poster] felt it necessary to approach either myself or my advisors about their motives, I cannot begin to fathom why they chose to mark our poster as 'inappropriate,'" she said. "The fact that anyone felt it appropriate to sexualize our poster

and deem it 'inappropriate' is extremely concerning."

When Auer's friend Vicki Goutzoulis, a senior media and communications studies major and ancient studies minor, discovered the treatment of the work, she took to myUMBC. In a post entitled "Rated 'R' for Research," she expressed her concern for

the decision. "Nothing about the work could have been construed as sexual, until a university representative informed Auer that her work had been moved to the back of the UC Ballroom, 'near the stage,'" stated Goutzoulis.

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COURTESY OF SARAH AUER

Wang and Auer are pictured here with their 'obscene' poster. Their poster was moved with very little notice due to its scientific portrayal of female sex organs, which are often stigmatized.