

THE MLWGS Jabberwock

Special Edition

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Thursday, May 25, 2011

Powerhouse Pair

By Natalie Pita

After two runoffs, six days of voting, and a total of 848 votes, Mariel Jorgensen ('12) and Sreena Patel ('12) won the election for 2011-2012 SCA Presidents with 66 percent of the votes.

"It feels good to not have wasted effort," said Jorgensen.

"We're really relieved because this election was, I think, one of the toughest in Maggie Walker history," said Patel. "We're really happy that the school came together and voted for us."

One reason many people considered this an especially competitive race was that two sophomores, Matthew Pickering ('13) and Henry Kellam ('13), ran for co-presidents.

"Kudos to Pickering and Kellam for putting up a tough fight," said Patel.

Although Pickering and Kellam were not easy to defeat, Jorgensen and Patel felt that there were several reasons that they emerged victorious.

"I think most of the school realized that we've had three years of experience at Maggie Walker, while they've only had two," said Patel. "So, I think they thought we could do a better job leading the school."

Patel and Jorgensen also credit their success to their dynamics as a pair.

"We're also a powerhouse team together," said Patel. "I know that together we can tackle any problem."

According to Jorgensen, the biggest challenge of campaigning for the election was "being remembered consistently."

"The hardest part was having to think of different ways to get our name out every day," said Jorgensen. "People remember your name one day, and then another day it will be overshadowed by someone else."

Jorgensen believes she and Patel were able to overcome this obstacle by "mixing it up with different strategies."



Sreena Patel (left) and Mariel Jorgensen pose with previous SCA president Johnny Kim. Photo by Gowri Buddiga.

Some of their most memorable ideas included handing out stickers, wearing an Elmo suit, and setting up a chocolate fountain in the commons.

"We tried to stay a step ahead [of the competitors] and come up with new things," said Jorgensen.

Patel believes that another major obstacle was getting students to vote at all.

"I think the hardest part was getting people to vote, because a lot of people didn't know their PowerSchool log-in information," said Patel.

Despite the challenges, it was an easy choice for Jorgensen and Patel to run.

"We think the position [of SCA Presidents] plays to our strengths," said Jorgensen. "I've always wanted to run for something. I've always been interested in leadership positions, and this seemed like the ultimate one."

"Ever since we've been at Maggie Walker we've wanted to get involved. We've seen other people running in elections and we decided that it was our time to run," said Patel. "We love our school and we know that we know it."

Jorgensen and Patel already have

some plans and goals of what they want to accomplish during their presidency.

"We're looking forward to meeting with Johnny Kim and administrators to talk about what some of the school's problems are," said Patel. "We really want to hear what students think."

One definite goal of Patel and Jorgensen is to reinstitute Mr. Maggie Walker, and they also want to include other people on the morning announcements as much as possible.

Jorgensen and Patel also believe that they can improve MLWGS by learning about other schools, so they plan on talking with some faculty members who recently visited Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology in order to gather ideas of their own.

According to Jorgensen, they want to "hopefully run our school in an efficient manner."

"Our biggest thing is school unity, so that's really where our main focus is," said Patel.

Election Results

SCA Officers:

Election 1:

President

Charles Fricke: 16.99% (62 votes)
 Jorgensen and Patel: 33.42% (122)
 Pickering and Kellam: 19.73% (72)
 Rhoads and Baxter: 9.59% (35)
 Shobe and Pittman: 20.27% (74)

Treasurer

Mallory and Whitehead: 40.17%
 (143)
 Sarkar and Andrade: 26.40% (94)
 Wang and Garrett: 33.43% (119)

Secretary

Pinkleton and Bruno: 54.78% (195)
 Wagner and Ruggles: 45.22% (161)

Runoff 1:

President

Fricke: 13.91% (37)
 Jorgensen and Patel: 38.35% (102)
 Pickering and Kellam: 25.56% (68)
 Shobe and Pittman: 22.18% (59)

Treasurer

Mallory and Whitehead: 47.89%
 (125)
 Wang and Garrett: 52.11% (136)

Runoff 2:

Jorgensen and Patel: 66.36% (144)
 Pickering and Kellam: 33.64% (73)

Class of 2012:

President

Dylan Fauss and Eric Ott

Secretary

Eileen Wang and Judy Hou

Treasurer

Nitin Nainani and Justin Shawler

Historian

Annie Hulcher and Annie Weidhaas

Class of 2013:

Election 1:

President

Dumistra and Lull: 56.39% (75)
 Minnick and Thomas: 10.53% (14)
 Whisnant and Petrine: 33.08% (44)

Treasurer

Gallagher and Ashley: 6.77% (9)
 Morris and Ziegler: 44.36% (59)
 Walter: 48.87% (65)

Secretary

Chen and Jia: 42.11% (56)
 Pidaparti and Tynes: 36.84% (49)
 Werner and Bowers: 21.05% (28)

Historian

Greatwood: 79.70% (106)
 Nestler and Swanson: 20.30% (27)

Runoff 1:

Treasurer

Morris and Ziegler: 52.21% (59)
 Walter: 47.79% (54)

Secretary

Chen and Jia: 58.93% (66)
 Pidaparti and Tynes: 41.07% (46)

Class of 2014

Election 1:

President

Monks and Banta: 44.86% (48)
 Mills and Peters: 28.36% (25)
 Neighbors and Bush: 10.28% (11)
 Tekriwal and Zhan: 21.50% (23)

Treasurer

Dwyer and Dwyer: 62.62% (67)
 Morris and Reichert: 37.38%

Secretary

Carney: 41.90% (44)
 Phares: 58.10% (61)

Historian

Miles: 38.89% (42)
 Parker and Goodwin: 61.11% (66)

Runoff 1:

President

Mills and Peters: 20.31% (13)
 Monks and Banta: 51.56% (33)
 Tekriwal and Zhan: 28.13% (18)