



Questionnaire for Community College Board candidates

General Election, November 4, 2008

Candidate/Campaign Information:

Candidate name:	Bruce Wolfe, M.S.W.
Office sought:	SF Community College Board
Contact person:	Bruce Wolfe
Mail address:	1951 Page St, S.F., CA 94117
Telephone:	415-287-3431
Email address:	info@brucewolfe.net
Web address:	http://www.brucewolfe.net/
Anticipated Budget:	\$25,000
Funds raised to date:	\$3000
Percentage of donations under \$50	50%

General Questions: Please write a brief response (less than 150 words) to each question. Please return this questionnaire electronically to contactus@phdemclub.org We will make these questionnaires available to our members before the endorsement meeting.

1. Why are you running? Why should we vote for you?
2. What sets you apart from your opponents?

3. What are the top three issues facing San Francisco's community college? What will you do about those issues?

4. Would you describe yourself as fiscally responsible? Please give an example to support your answer.

5. Would you describe yourself as socially progressive? Please give an example to support your answer.

Issue Questions:

1. Given the very real probability of reduced state funding for CCSF in the coming years, what combination of budget cuts and tax increases would you suggest to address budgetary shortfalls?

I would like to see Prop 13 reform for business as a start. As then-Senator John Burton was leaving office, he seemed to be able to strike a deal to get this moving forward until the recall of Governor Gray Davis appeared. With this as a start will surely help bring in new revenue.

Budget cuts need to go to the prisons. This rampant creating of prison industrial complex must stop. It has been shown time and time again that education along with secured housing helps reduce recidivism and helps prevent crime.

Sacramento and advocacy analysts have stated that closing one prison can fund the rebuild of every public school in the state.

2. While eleven community colleges in California offer student housing, CCSF does not. Given that housing in San Francisco is in high demand and hugely expensive, what would you propose to solve the problem for CCSF students who need housing?

As a board member of the successful SF Community Land Trust, I know that housing cooperatives work especially when the land underneath is held in perpetuity by a very democratic membership based community organization.

As President of Associated Students at SFSU, when Verducci Hall was inappropriately imploded and then campus apartments were condemned as health hazard due to toxic black mold, I worked with students to help secure rental property around the city as student cooperatives.

When elected as Trustee, I will work with my colleagues already on the board to include housing with every campus building (re)development and be sure that as much renewable energy generation is installed.

3. How can CCSF address the needs of disadvantaged students – those with lower grades and educational inadequacies? How would you propose to increase opportunities for them to catch up to the other students?

As a student with a disability at CCSF, I had opportunity to meet many disadvantaged students. Some of the programs in existence there and others I was involved in creating helped students immensely. Programs like bookloan so students would be saved not only the expense of books; a Family Resource Center created and built by students in the Student Union for single parents needed extra help with child-care and tutoring; Homeless advocacy and services, insuring that all granting and financial supplements are maintained and available.

Upon the passage of Prop 209 that banned affirmative action, we as students created the non-profit, Education in Action, to help counsel and tutor student seeking transfer to 4-year schools find all possible ways toward being accepted. Further, on campus programs like Students Supporting Students (S³) provided additional support for students.

My personal experience as a student at CCSF leaves me with the ongoing concern about student success. While faculty for the most part understand the needs for student success, I will continue as a knowledgeable educator myself to seek new and innovative ways to help students, and be sure to make these suggestions to faculty and staff to consider implementing.

City College works the best when considered as family that takes care of its own.

As Trustee, I will insure that students are not prevented from receiving essential services and creating more programs, and will help in financial support and resources.

4. What measures should CCSF take to improve its fiscal responsibility and public financial accountability, especially with its spending of bond money?

Trustees must have this oversight to insure that others are acting appropriately. It is unacceptable for Trustees not to be informed but more so they are not also keeping a pulse on these kinds of activities.

I would strongly disallow through policy any management level staff from working on college initiatives unless they take a leave of absence.

I have seen similar bad practices at every level of public education through on up to University of California.

As Trustee, I would go so far as to hire a Board Budget Analyst like the Board of Supervisors did in hiring Harvey Rose.

5. Do you support a voluntary system of Clean Elections – full public financing – of candidates for citywide offices? Would you participate in such a system if it were available?

Yes and of course. I've been working on clean campaign financing for over ten years both at the local and state level.

6. Do you support or oppose the following propositions on the November ballot? Please explain why or why not.

- Declaration of Policy of the people of San Francisco that its elected representatives in the US Senate and House should vote against any further funding for deployment of US Armed Forces in Iraq, except funds specifically earmarked for their safe withdrawal

Support Oppose Reason:

We have spent enough money and time on this effort in the Middle East. Our country is hurting because of it with regards to the economy and foreclosures of peoples' homes they worked long and hard for while the few percent of the wealthiest in the country continue to get rich.

The spending must stop and return back to supporting things like education and adequate housing for all.

- CA Proposition 4: Amends California Constitution to prohibit abortion for an unemancipated minor until 48 hours after physician notifies minor's parent, legal guardian or, if parental abuse reported, an adult family member

Support Oppose Reason:

- CA Proposition 5: Provides rehabilitation as an alternative to prison for nonviolent drug offenders

Support Oppose Reason:

Since before becoming a member of SF NOW and SF Women's Political Caucus over the past several years ago, I do not support this proposition. It is a reactionary and harmful initiative that does not respect the privacy, equity or the reproductive freedom of woman to make their own decisions about their bodies and lives.

Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire.