

ASNMSU to appoint Sylvas for 2012-2013 presidency

Schoonover's appeal said to be informal therefore invalid

Special Email Regarding Elections from ASNMSU President

To the Students of New Mexico State University,

It is with a heavy heart that I write you today, Monday, April 30, 2012, to inform you that the democratic process within the ASNMSU Senate has failed you. On the afternoon of Thursday, April 26, 2012, the ASNMSU Senate Special Committee on Elections met to review an appeal filed that day by Christopher Schoonover, Senator for the College of Extended Learning. The appeal was to be filed on Wednesday, April 11, 2012 by 5PM. Christopher never filed a formal appeal, precedence of what the word appeal meant was set when the first run off was delayed due to his detailed appeal. Notice of an appeal, "I am going to appeal this decision", is

Letter from ASNMSU President, Austin Graham

Posted: Monday, April 30, 2012 10:34 am | Updated: 1:39 pm, Wed May 2, 2012.

ASNMSU to appoint Sylvas for 2012-2013 presidency Vicky Diaz | Executive News Producer | 3 comments

The Associate Students of New Mexico State University came to a decision today about the presidential-runoff elections.

The appeal filed by presidential candidate Christopher Schoonover was proven to be informal, so it was overturned.

"Notice of an appeal, 'I am going to appeal this decision', is not the same as a descriptive appeal which had previously been filed," said Austin Graham in an email sent to the student body. "[The appeal] is available for public viewing the ASNMSU Office, Second Floor of Corbett Center Student Union."

Graham said the action taken by the ASNMSU Senate Special Committee on Elections was "illegal," which was "already identified" by former Vice President Joseph Baldonado. Following the announcement of Schoonover's informal appeal, Graham wrote that presidential candidate, Breeana Sylvas, who had won with 60 percent of the votes, would be sworn into presidency for the 2012 to 2013 school year.

"The 55th ASNMSU Senate has broken the oath and law that they took upon themselves when receiving the duties," Graham wrote.

The illegal appeal could not prove the ballot as jeopardized. Graham said these allegations were made after votes were processed, not during the time votes were cast. Sylvas received 1,015 student votes out of 1,686, fulfilling the 51-percentile requirement.

"ASNMSU deeply apologizes for what has taken place and hopes that the students she represents will be able to grow past this mistake," Graham said concluding his letter to the student body.