

International clash of the parties

Lisa McDonald
News Editor

On Friday, Jan. 29, International Club hosted a Democrat-Republican presentation to ready students for the Feb. 1 caucusing. Collin Wilkinson ('18) and Joan & Abbott Lipsky Professor of Political Science Bruce Nesmith acted as representatives of the Democrats and Republicans, respectively, to answer students' questions about each of the parties. While Wilkinson is an intern for the Bernie Sanders's campaign, Nesmith came to provide a voice for the Republican side, claiming no political affiliations either way.

Nesmith began with

a short history on the American political system. Nothing is explicitly stated in the Constitution dictating the number of political parties, but within ten years of our nation's creation, it had divided naturally. As Nesmith noted, "It's an evolved system, not a created system, not anymore."

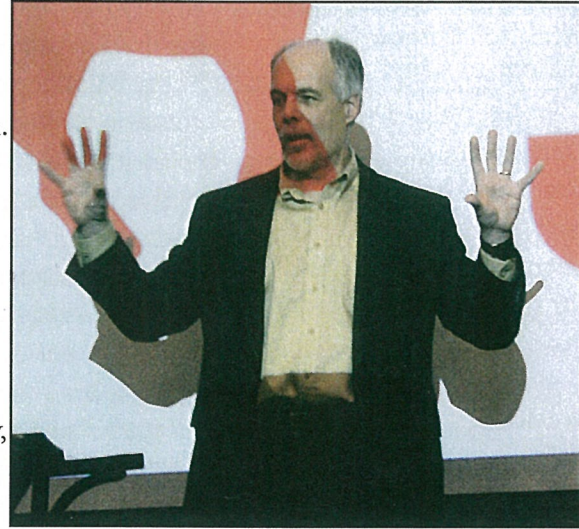
Wilkinson and Nesmith worked together to explain the difference between ideologies of the two parties. It boiled down to two key terms: Democrats are progressives, Republicans are traditionalists. From these ideologies the two parties shape their proposed policies and legislation.

Students asked ques-

tions during the presentation. One of these questions, directed at the Republican party, pointed out that the rhetoric Trump

has been levying against Muslims during public addresses is rhetoric that would likely be labeled as terrorist in nature if it came from an individual not of American citizenship. The question posed wanted a reason for why the United States government allows Trump to continue speaking such hateful commentary. Nesmith responded that the American government is limited in what they can do since freedom of speech is guaranteed within the Bill of Rights, and since Trump's words have not as yet been connected to a specific action--such as legislation to force the removal of Muslims--he has not technically done anything the government

can prosecute him for. Some students were unfamiliar with what caucusing is, and Nesmith summed it up simply, with: "caucus is a meeting of party people to select candidates." Wilkinson elaborated on the method, explaining that states either hold primaries or caucuses to decide whom their delegates will support. While states holding primaries simply drop ballots into a box to be tabulated, caucusing is a more interactive process. The presentation ran for half an hour, at which point International Club President Uzir Thapa ('17) thanked Nesmith and Wilkinson for the educative afternoon.



Professor Bruce Nesmith explains how certain government policies could favor different parties.



Collin Wilkinson ('18) explains Republican Candidate Donald Trump's right to freedom of speech. Photos by Lisa McDonald.

When the lights go out

Rachel Deyoe
Editor-in-Chief

Around 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday morning, the rhythm of regular campus life came to a sudden halt when most of campus lost power as a result of an electrical surge. Until the power came back on at approximately 12:30 p.m., students found their options limited in terms of technology use, and many departments around campus had to make quick adjustments to continue operating.

"[The power outage] affects us a lot," said Jamie Wolfe ('16), whose work-study position is in Stewart Memorial Library. "Everything we do is basically on the computer."

Roxie Hinrichsen, assistant manager of the PUB, explained that she had to move her work out of the back of the PUB in order to see by the light

from the windows. "We can't use the fryers," she said, "the grill, or the coffee machines. We're going to have to find refrigeration too."

"We just got our truck in yesterday," said Tina



Sodexo Grill Cook Tony Mearidy prepares hamburgers for lunch in an impromptu cookout.

Photo by Rachel Deyoe.

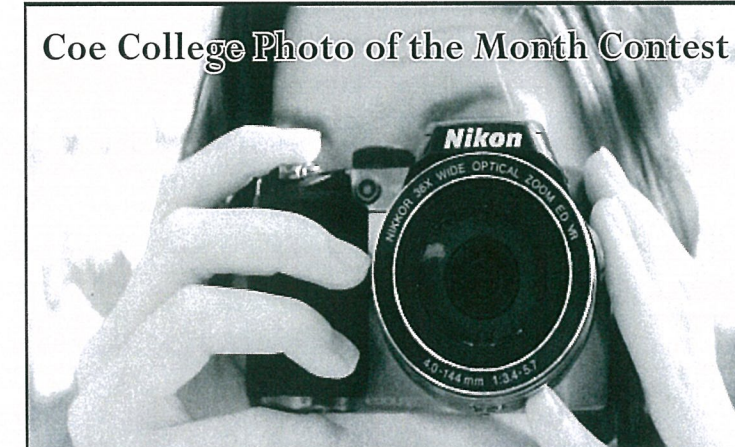
Bent, PUB manager, "so our freezers are full." Fortunately for the PUB team, the power returned before alternative refrigeration options were needed.

Meanwhile, in the cafeteria, preparations for lunch required some improvisation. "It's pitch black in the kitchen," said Sodexo Operations Manager Emily Sacora. Luckily, the cafeteria stovetops

holding a flashlight while the other prepared the improvised menu items. General Manager Tom Wieseler put together lemonade, and iced tea to stand in for the fountain drinks normally offered, and Sodexo even fired up the propane grill outside the cafeteria, bringing freshly-grilled hamburgers and hot dogs inside for the students.

While Physical Plant worked to solve the problem, Coe Security propped the doors of dorms, allowing access to students, whose ID cards were useless with the deactivated door scanners.

Like other departments, Mailroom Supervisor Shari Saari kept a can-do attitude. "We're still working," she said. "Packages are moving, mail is going out...it's just dark."



Coe College Photo of the Month Contest

One Coe-themed photo will selected from all submissions each month. Multiple submissions accepted. Digital photo resolution minimum of 1800x2400 pixels. Photo must be taken during the month of submission. Submit to [sgubanc@coe.edu](mailto:sjubanc@coe.edu) by the last day of the month. Winning photo will receive a \$25 Amazon gift card and the photo will be printed, framed and hung in the struve Communication Center. Open to current Coe students only.