

## ASOC election details and candidates' statements

By **NOAH LEVIN**  
Staff writer

This semester's Associated Students of Ohlone College elections will take place next week on Tuesday, April 24 and Thursday, April 25.

Free donuts and Jamba Juice smoothies will be given away to voters after they cast their ballots.

Voting will be open from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 5 to 7 p.m. To help



**Tatyana Hamady**  
Presidential Candidate

My name is Tatyana Hamady and I am running for ASOC President. I would fit this position best because of my love for helping Ohlone students have a fulfilling college experience and because of my familiarity with the school. I began as a senator last spring and was later elected for the '06-'07 terms as vice president. This has prepared me for the significant position of president; it has taught me to find what the students need and perform these needs to the best of my ability. Everything is born through passion. I will make it my duty to translate your passions into my own and see them to fruition.



**Yao-Li Yuan**  
Treasurer Candidate

Hello, my name is Yao-Li Yuan. I am deaf, from Taiwan and moved here in October. I graduated from the California School for the Deaf, in Fremont in 2002 and enrolled in Ohlone College right after.

Why do I want to be elected for ASOC Treasurer? It is because I want to learn and get experience for my future.



**Sahar Yousef**  
Student Board Member Candidate

Hello, my name is Sahar Yousef and I am running for my second term as the student member of the Board of Trustees. Ohlone College has done so much for me; being involved with ASOC is my way of returning the favor. I am a very strong and passionate person and I truly enjoy all of the new experiences I have been able to have serving the students here. I would like to ask everyone to vote and let me continue representing the students on the Board of Trustees.



**Ken Steadman**  
Legislative Rep. Candidate

Hey, I'm Ken. I am the current legislative representative and would like to continue in that position. This position is responsible for representing Ohlone College's interests at the regional and statewide student senate meetings. I have been involved in this for two years and am well acquainted with the people and situations involved with this position. Last year, I was the vice president of Region 4 of the California Student Association of Community Colleges (CalSACC). Vote for me if you care.

voters choose a candidate, ASOC will hold an event titled "Meet the Candidates" today at noon in the Quad.

Running for president are Tauheed Safi and current Vice President Tatyana Hamady. The position of treasurer is being sought after by Yao-Li Yuan; Danial Calloway is running for representative at large; incumbent Sahar Yousef is running for the position of student member of the Board of Trustees, and Ken Steadman, the present representative at large, is running for legislative representative.

The candidates' statements are as follows:

## Ohlone responds to tragedy

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and live as if nothing could hurt them. It's only when a tragedy takes place that people panic and immediately start looking for ways to prevent it from happening again.

Rodgers also pointed out that high schools are far more prepared than colleges for emergencies like this because they already have lock-down drills and alarm systems in place. These measures would be more difficult to implement in a college setting because, according to Osawa, it's harder to get adults to go along with them. In high schools, most students are minors and are thus bound by law to follow the instructions.

There are some preventative measures that students and faculty can take. Unlike many other cultures around the world, Americans tend to value their personal space and privacy and are often unwilling to talk to strangers in public settings. Change that - a simple smile, nod, or "hello" might make a world of difference. For those deeply affected by what happened in Virginia, Student Health Center Director Sally Bratton is available for counseling. Simply drop by Building 16 or call (510) 659-6258 to make an appointment. If you notice any suspicious behavior on campus or feel threatened by another student, you need only call (510) 659-6111 to reach the campus police.

Ultimately, Rodgers said, "there really is no [guaranteed] protection...If someone is intent on hurting someone else, they will do it." Some disagree, but almost all agree on one thing: awareness and planning are keys to our safety.

## Iraq more complicated than 'blood for oil'

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less about the U.S. securing oil from countries outside of OPEC (one of the supposed benefits of the Iraq war) and I wouldn't expect anything else of them.

The truth is, Saddam held the country together, albeit in a sadistic kind of way, and we show up and liberate them, introduce to them the foreign concept of democracy and expect them to show gratitude to the wonderful U.S. liberators. Doesn't this sound a little naive?

What we should have done was oust Saddam and install a leader who actually cares about human rights and could build his country up. What we did was not what

was good for the Iraqi people, but what sounded good to the American voter, who sees our system of democracy as second to none. What our government should have done was listen to the Iraqi people, because they know best how to run their country.

For too long, Americans have been supporting this foreign policy of democracy first and all the other details sometime else.

So now we see the mistake we have made and the hole we have dug for ourselves. I would love to say history doesn't repeat itself, but here we are again in an unpopular war that seems to have no end in sight. Sound familiar?



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