Civic apathy

We are failing to take that principle of community engagement to heart at Ohlone. For example, last week the Monitor published candidate statements from each person seeking an executive position on the ASOC. I feel like a broken record for saying time and again that when an individual is running unopposed—as are the current crop of ASOC candidates, it ceases to be a race or at least even appear to be a competitive one.

Looking at that, it’s easier to throw up your hands and believe that each of those races have already been won despite the election to be held April 30.

The idea is that it’s over before it even begins.

I think the apathy of the situation is just one more reflective attribute of what this campus is feeling as a general sentiment.

We are apathetic to the process that it takes to get things done, not just as students or faculty members, but as individuals who are collectively apart of the Ohlone community.

Those of us who have been here for a while can acknowledge that we have been on a downward slide the past few years.

Compared to other community colleges, we have managed to keep our head above the water.

However, that’s not to say that we aren’t trying to plug holes in our system to stay afloat.

The lack of trust rose incrementally with incidents such as President Browning’s 14 percent raise amidst difficult economic times and with voter fraud charges brought against former Ohlone Board Nick Nardolillo.

It is no wonder why we have massive trust issues with those who are in charge.

We are also compromising ourselves and our principles with each passing day for the sake of saving money.

These things are all little steps, but they amount to giant leaps of faith against what we supposedly stand for.

In the last midterm election, voters overwhelmingly passed the Measure G initiative to help support changes in our infrastructure. This was a vote of confidence in us and our future.

We need to realize that we have an image to repair as well.

How have high gas prices affected you?

Lawrence Alea  
ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES  
"I stay at home a lot more."

Mollie Goldberg  
UNDECIDED  
"I don’t own a car. Gas prices don’t affect me I take the bus."

Alden Andres  
MUSIC  
"It really doesn’t affect me."

Jane Chen  
COMMUNICATION STUDIES  
"I take the bus right now."

Instagram: Worth a billion dollars?

By MARRA-MARIE MAGSAKAY  
Staff writer

A recent trend to take pictures with a smartphone and instantly share on the web has overtaken the quality of a simple digital camera or sophisticated DSLR.

However Instagram, the iPhone App of the Year in 2011, has taken this task to another level.

Instagram is a mobile app that can take pictures, post, like, comment and follow people.

Doesn’t this sound similar to the Facebook app?

However, with 17 filters, blur effect and extra editing capabilities, Instagram allows users to be creative without much effort.

On April 12, Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg bought Instagram for $1 billion in cash and stock.

Although Instagram is still a young company, it has the capability to outgrow other social networks.

The amount of money it was based news publication, “The New York Times Company is worth about $50 million less than the $1 billion that Facebook just paid for Instagram.”

However Instagram, the April 30.

According to The Next Web, an online publication, “The New York Times Company is worth about $50 million less than the $1 billion that Facebook just paid for Instagram.”

Facebook news explained that Zuckerberg “is not spending $1 billion on an app,” said Weber. “It is buying three things: potential rival with bigger threats in the social networking space; a better way to Instagram over Facebook. Zuckerberg could have denied the offer to see how far the company can go.”

Zuckerberg seemed to have entertaining as Instagram.

Looking at that, it’s easier to see the potential Zuckerberg saw in it and he didn’t want any other company to get in the way.

Many users of the Facebook mobile app would agree that it is not as interactive and entertaining as Instagram.

A good amount of users, who use both apps, would choose Instagram over Facebook.

Therefore, Facebook is losing its touch of the “cool” factor.

With the two powers combined, there is no way that any other social network can out grow this collaboration.

Instagram CEO Kevin Systrom said, “It’s important to be clear that Instagram is not going away.

“We’ll be working with Facebook to evolve Instagram, and build the network.” Lucky for Systrom his company went from zero to a billion dollars.