

# CHOICE VOTING – as easy as 1-2-3!

## HOW DO I VOTE WITH CHOICE VOTING?

Rank the candidates in order of preference: 1, 2, 3, and so on. You can rank as many as you want. Ranking more does not hurt your top choices' chances of winning.

## WHAT DOES CHOICE VOTING ACCOMPLISH?

With Choice Voting, nearly all voters win representation in the ASUCD Senate. It also lets voters elect the ASUCD President by majority (50%+1) in a single election.

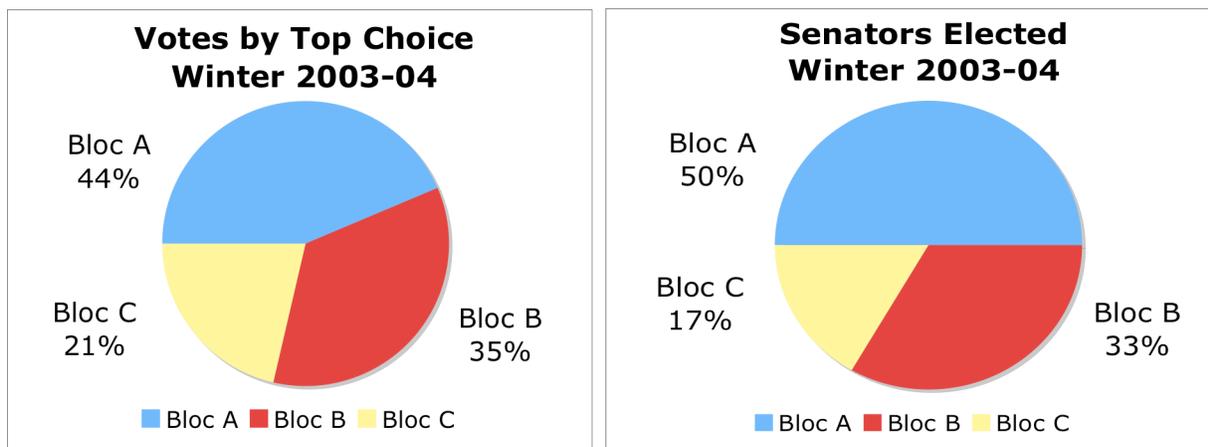
Choice voting rewards sincere voting and nearly guarantees your vote will elect a winner. It uses a special counting method. Votes are never wasted because your vote transfers at full value to your next choice if your highest choice gets eliminated.

## ASUCD SENATE ELECTIONS

For Senate elections, Choice Voting is called “Single Transferable Voting,” or STV.

## WHAT DOES STV DO?

STV ensures that nearly every voter gets to elect a representative they prefer to the ASUCD Senate. STV is a system of proportional representation that makes the ASUCD Senate an accurate cross-section of the entire voting body.



Choice Voting results from ASUCD's Winter 2003-2004 Election.

## WHAT DOES MY RANKING MEAN?

Your top choice is the candidate you most want to represent you. Your second choice is your backup choice. Your second choice counts only if your first choice (1) loses, or (2) wins with votes to spare. Your third choice is your backup in case your second choice loses or wins, and so on.

## HOW DOES STV WORK?

Each ASUCD Senate election has 6 winners. Under STV, a candidate is elected once he or she has the unique support of over 1/7 of the voters.

STV tallies the votes in rounds. First, count all the top choices. If no candidate reaches the 1/7 threshold, the candidate with the fewest votes is eliminated. If you chose that candidate, your vote transfers to the next choice on your ballot. All other votes stay the same. Then the votes are counted again in a new round.

If a candidate does reach the 1/7 threshold in a round, they are elected. Any extra votes they have transfer to the next choice on those voters' ballots. This process of eliminating and transferring continues until 6 candidates are elected. Each winning candidate represents 1/7 of the voters.

## ASUCD PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

For single-winner elections like ASUCD President, Choice Voting is called "Instant Runoff Voting," or IRV.

### WHAT DOES IRV DO?

IRV ensures that a majority of voters (50%+1) elect the ASUCD President—even when there are three or more candidates.

### WHAT DOES MY RANKING MEAN?

Your top choice is the candidate you most want to be President. Your second choice is your backup choice. Your second choice counts only if your first choice loses. Your third choice is your backup in case your second choice loses, and so on.

### HOW DOES IRV WORK?

The ASUCD President wins election once he or she has the support of a majority (50%+1) of the voters.

IRV tallies the votes in rounds. First, count all the top choices. If any candidate has a majority, he or she is elected. If no candidate has a majority, eliminate the candidate with the fewest votes. If you chose that candidate, your vote transfers to your next choice. This process of eliminating and transferring continues until a majority winner is reached.

## MORE INFO

Choice Voting is used at many other universities, including UC Berkeley, UC San Diego, Stanford, Caltech, Harvard, Duke, and Princeton. It is used in Cambridge, MA and San Francisco, CA and in Ireland, England, and Australia. Search the web to learn more!