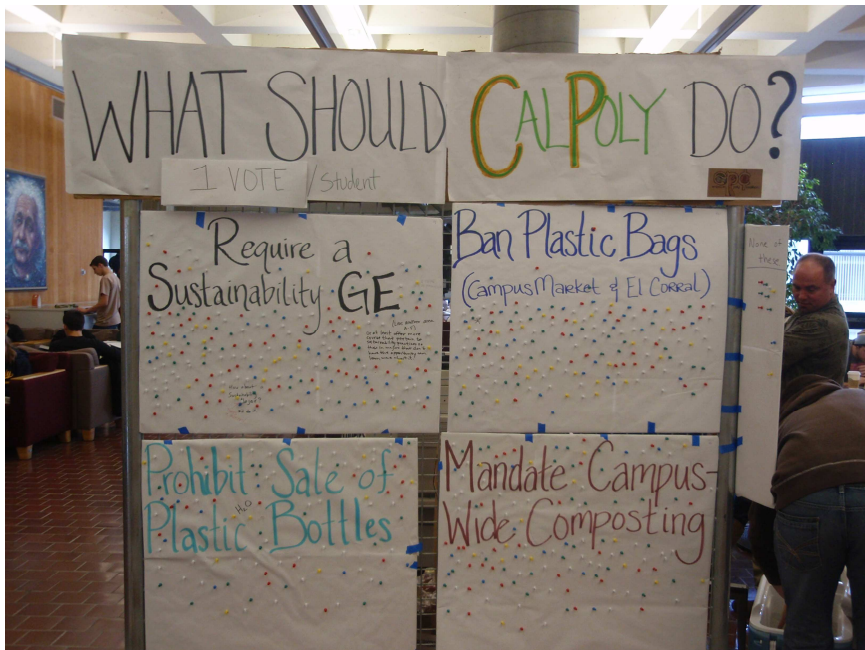


What Should Cal Poly Do?

Voting Results from Cal Poly's Focus the Nation event on Feb 5th, 2009



A Quick Analysis

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What Should Cal Poly Do?

Below are the voting results from the push-pin voting board which was outside Chumash Auditorium from 9am to 5pm on February 5th for the Focus the Nation National Teach-In. At the end of each of the hour long presentations attendees were given the option of voting on what Cal Poly should do to be a more sustainable University. 835 students, faculty and a few staff members each voted once. The 4 topics were decided upon by the student Focus the Nation Organizing Committee.

What Should Cal Poly Do?	Votes	%
Require a Sustainability GE	293	35%
Prohibit the Sale of Plastic Water Bottles	129	15%
Ban Plastic Bags (Campus Market and El Corral)	235	28%
Mandate Campus-wide Composting	166	20%
None of These	12	1%
Total	835	100%

What does this mean?

This poll showed that 98.5% of students want some sort of action on sustainability compared to roughly 1.5% who voted to do “None of These” which doesn’t actually imply no action, but could rather mean to do something else besides the 4 available options. Also, the largest number of votes was cast for “Requiring a Sustainability GE”: 293 votes or 35%. This is important because it shows that students want to learn more about sustainability. This is also significant because it requires by far the largest amount of effort on behalf of a student. Adding another GE could potentially cost students more and extent graduation, which by many would be considered a larger sacrifice than giving up plastic bags or bottles.

