

ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE DEMOCRATS

NEWS RELEASE
For Immediate Release
September 16, 2004

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State Board of Elections Upholds College Dems Voter Drive

NORMAL, Ill. – The Illinois State University College Democrats overcame an obstacle this week, when the ISU College Republicans tried to shut down their voter registration drive.

The College Republicans claimed that the College Dems voter registration drive violated state election guidelines and that the College Dems could not campaign while registering voters with motor voter forms, according to ISU College Dems President Bill Gugerty. The Illinois State Board of Elections in a telephone conversation stated that there is no legal statute that forbids the use of motor voter forms while actively campaigning. The statute does not allow deputy registrars to campaign while registering voters. Gugerty also stated that the College Democrats are not acting as deputized registrars when using Motor Voter forms

The Illinois State University College Democrats continued their quest to register 2,000 new voters before the Oct. 5 deadline for the November election. The College Dems have registered more than 900 voters on the Illinois State University campus in Normal.

“This week was extremely successful,” said ISU College Dems President Bill Gugerty. “In just two days on the quad, we registered close to 500 voters; we are registering democrats, republicans, independents and anyone that is interested in participating in the civic process, we will not turn anyone away.”

“I was appalled by the College Republican’s behavior to stop the voter registration drive,” said ISU Student Trustee and College Dem Zach Koutsky. “Their action shows they are more concerned with partisan politics than civic participation.”

The ISU College Dems are a registered student organization at Illinois State University. The primary goal of the ISU College Dems is to help elect democrats to office at all levels of government and to raise civic participation among the 20,000 students of Illinois State University.

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Printed in House