

PRESS RELEASE



Veronica Obregon
Senior Communications Coordinator
Desk (512)-223-7596
Cell (512)-658-0772
vobregon@austincc.edu

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**NEW PUBLIC POLICY CENTER RELEASES STUDENT-RUN RESEARCH ON
STRAIGHT TICKET VOTING IN TEXAS**

Austin, TX – May 1, 2007 – When two independent gubernatorial candidates hit the Texas campaign trail in 2006, Democrats and Republicans alike feared traditional straight ticket voters would jump ship, siding with the Independents. After all, one candidate had until then been a Republican, and the other held views that mirrored those of Democrats. Recent research by Austin Community College District (ACC) students however, reveals those fears were unfounded.

“We are proud of our students’ accomplishments and are thrilled to be able to offer them the opportunity to engage in political research through the new Center for Public Policy and Political Studies (CPPPS),” said Dr. Stephen B. Kinslow, ACC District President/CEO.

The Center, which opened in January, has a board of directors, over which former Austin Mayor Bruce Todd presides. Peck Young, a notable political consultant serves as director of the Center. “Through nonpartisan research, faculty guidance and actual hands-on experience, CPPPS will help students learn how government policies are created and executed. Students will also learn how to improve communications between government representatives and the people they serve,” said Young.

The report on straight ticket voting can be viewed in its entirety at <http://www.policyaustin.org/research>.

About the CPPPS

The ACC Center for Public Policy & Political Studies is a nonpartisan and externally funded 501(c) (3). CPPPS is committed to education, civic engagement and promoting understanding across cultures. The Center’s goal is to help ACC students get to know the processes that govern our state and our nation. The Center will enable ACC’s students to develop a broad range of analytical and decision-making skills that they will use to understand issues of public concern. With these skills, students can pursue civic leadership and professional positions at public, nonprofit and private organizations.

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Austin Community College District
5930 Middle Fiskville Road ● Austin, Texas 78752
Phone 512.223.7596 ● Fax 512.223.7272