

Rose-Hulman on the Issues

With only days till this year's election the candidates are taking center stage and are voicing their opinions on the issues. To get a gage of who is standing out on these issues we polled Rose students to see where they stand on some of the most important topics of this year's election. This poll ran from October 14 to October 28 and 142 students took part. We would like to thank all that took part in the poll and don't forget to vote!

Which issues of the economy are most important to you?

- Lowering Taxes	15%
- Free Trade	10%
- Affordable Healthcare	13%
- Social Security	4%
- Student Loans	10%
- Stabilizing Financial Markets	28%
- Lowering Gas Prices	2%
- Other	18%

Which candidate do you trust more to deal with the issue you chose above?

- Barack Obama	41%
- John McCain	42%
- Neither	17%

Who do you trust more to revive the economy in the face of the current crisis?

- Barack Obama	44%
- John McCain	36%
- Neither	20%

Do agree you with this statement: "NAFTA is good for the U.S."

- Agree	70%
- Disagree	30%

Which is most important?

- Having a fair tax structure even if it means your taxes are raised.	76%
- Having your individual taxes lowered.	24%

Which should the next administration give priority to, achieving energy independence, even if it means ignoring climate change, or combating global climate change, even if it means we cannot achieve energy independence?

- Energy independence. 68%
- Combating global climate change. 32%

Should domestic oil drilling be expanded to relieve foreign dependency?

- Yes 60%
- No 33%
- No opinion 7%

Developing renewable energy requires significant investment in R & D, when compared to the private sector, how much of a role should the government play in developing renewable technology?

- Government plays a large role, where as the private sector plays a minimal role. 11%
- Government and private sector play an equal role. 57%
- Government plays a minimal role, where as the private sector plays a large role. 32%

One technology available to combat oil dependency and global warming is nuclear energy, should nuclear energy development be significantly expanded?

- Yes 76%
- No 14%
- No opinion 10%

Which candidate do you think will most effectively handle the challenge of global climate change?

- Barack Obama 53%
- John McCain 20%
- Neither 27%

If you had to choose, which do you think is better for the U.S.?

- Set a timetable for removing troops from Iraq regardless of whether the U.S. goals are achieved by that time. 51%
- Keep a significant number of troops in Iraq until the U.S. achieves its goals regardless of how long that takes. 42%

How should the next president deal with rogue states, such as North Korea and Iran?

- Conditional Talks (i.e. Iran must stop nuclear research before we talk to them). 20%
- Open and unconditional talks. 46%
- Hard-Line tactics (i.e. economic and military pressure). 25%
- None of the above. 9%

Which candidate do you most trust to make the tough decision of committing U.S. troops to combat?

- Barack Obama 34%
- John McCain 54%
- Neither 13%

Which candidate do you trust more to keep America safe and secure?

- Barack Obama 37%
- John McCain 48%
- Neither 15%

On a scale of 1 to 5 (5 being the highest) how important is it for the next president to have a great deal of political experience?

- 5 20%
- 4 32%
- 3 35%
- 2 8%
- 1 5%

On a scale of 1 to 5 (5 being the highest) how important is it for the next president to want to bring change to the government?

- 5 39%
- 4 28%
- 3 18%
- 2 11%
- 1 4%

On a scale of 1 to 5 (5 being the highest) how much will the candidate's age affect your vote?

- 5 4%
- 4 6%
- 3 20%
- 2 28%
- 1 42%

If you had to choose, which of the following issues will be most important in determining your vote for president?

- The economy	42%
- Terrorism	4%
- The situation in Iraq	8%
- Health care	7%
- Energy	15%
- Other	24%

Which candidate would best be able to handle the issue you chose above?

- Barack Obama	45%
- John McCain	37%
- Neither	18%

