

Government – Pictures and Processes

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I got something in the mail yesterday.

A package that read: United States Senate. In it were 6 autographed pictures, with an official little note accompanying: Compliments of Senator Richard Burr.

That was pretty cool. The photos were from our January trip to the Inauguration seminars. And apparently Vice-President Biden drove past our school yesterday on his way to Faison.

Speaking of Government, last Monday our SGA held an open campus forum to discuss all issues related to the student experience. Not many students showed up, but nonetheless, we felt that it was necessary. Being in student government, I think one of the biggest things that I have come to appreciate is how difficult government can be. Even on the relatively small scale of SGA, there is a lot to overcome.

First of all, I've realized that a lot of people have a stake in what government does, but not many people are willingly to participate in the process (lots of people have something to say, but not many do something about it). Secondly, with so many different people at stake, each party necessarily has their own agenda and motivations. As a result, government is pulled in every direction. Thirdly, and finally (only for the sake of time and space) government is very limited in what it can do. It is the way the system is designed, so that no one party has too much power to exploit others.

I can only imagine the difficulty in government at the global level, with one of the toughest economic times since the Great Depression of the 1930s on its hands.

Anyway, I have to run to class. I've got a big presentation to do today.