Sac State screening recalls the 2003 recall

A unique look behind the scenes of California’s 2003 gubernatorial recall will be offered at Sacramento State.

The University’s Project for an Informed Electorate (PIE) will present the documentary Born to Run (a.k.a. Gubernatorious) as a commemoration of the recall election’s 10th anniversary. The recall of Gov. Gray Davis resulted in 135 accredited candidates, and Born to Run follows five first-time – and unconventional – candidates through the process, including their appearance in a debate at Sacramento State.

The free screening of the 80-minute film will be held at 6 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 21, in Mendocino Hall 1015, followed by a panel discussion and question-and-answer session led by communication studies Professor Molly Dugan.

PIE was created by Professor Kimberly Nalder to foster greater understanding of politics, policy and government by identifying, creating and disseminating accurate, open and nonpartisan information.

Produced by Jayson Haedrich, Robbie Stauder and Nick Regalbuto, Born to Run includes footage from before, during and after the debate on the Sac State campus.

The panel discussion will include Haedrich and Stauder, plus some of the five candidates featured, such as Cheryl Bly Chester. The other four candidates in the film are Mike McCarthy, Bill Wyatt, Georgy Russell and Mary Carey.

Born to Run has been described as a humorous view of the process in which the candidates “vie for attention in an electorate gone mad.”

“There’s a lot to be said about how the media aids or hinders campaigns, and how political equality comes up short when it comes to running for office,” Nalder says.

For more information on the Project for an Informed Electorate, visit www.csus.edu/ssis/pie/. For media assistance, call Sacramento State’s Public Affairs office at (916) 278-6156. – Craig Koscho