



# FORWARD2004!

## GREEN NATIONAL CONVENTION

### Communications Committee Report

At the DC meeting the communications committee was reconvened and elected two co-chairs, Susan Dridi and Greg Gerritt. Since then it has been relatively quiet as a committee, rarely convening even on line as a body, but very active with projects to improve communications and the handling of information in the Green Party.

One place of improved communications is in the management of the two CC lists. The votes list and the discussion lists. When state parties send changes they are taken care of in 24 hours or less, often much less, problems are handled promptly and solved. The programs and servers for all of the lists, including committee lists, have been upgraded with better tools for managing them now available. A clear case of upgraded technology merged with having the right people taking care of things. The delegates and the state parties also are getting in the swing of what to do to make changes.

The management of the CC lists has also been completely integrated into the management of the list of delegates on the voting page. Updated as often as necessary, daily if needed, there is now a complete list of contact information for all delegates, alternates, list observers, and staff on the voting page.

The voting page, bugs and all, remains one of the 8 wonders of the modern world. It is getting a major upgrade this spring/summer, but even with the bugs it has dramatically changed how the CC operates, lessening the need for people to individually watch, count, and record votes, and making the votes accessible for all interested parties in real time. Members of the Communications Committee who also sit on the BRPP are working to integrate the upgraded capacity of the voting page into the upgraded rules for how the GPUS makes decisions.

The website continues to be upgraded with a web manager and a content team paying attention to its evolution. More information and more timely information is now available.





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COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE  
COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE 2004 REPORT

The translation project has taken off, with volunteers working in eight languages. We now have teams for static non-English web pages and are poised to produce translations of press releases in Spanish and French.

The communications committee also has members involved in a variety of IT projects, primarily related to databases for the Green Party. Among these projects is the fundraising database, which was built to replace the ad-hoc database, which had been in place for 2002-03. It is currently in use at the national offices in DC, and is able to provide monthly reports on the relative success of different fundraising efforts, as well as providing the data for our monthly reports to the FEC. Efforts are on going to incorporate the data stored in the old system including the contribution history for thousands of Greens and Green supporters, which should help with reinvigorating our fundraising process.

At the CC meeting we hope to hear from the members of the CC what they think we should be looking at, and especially thoughts on whether it makes sense to split the committee into two committees with one remnant focused on the communications and public face of the greens, and a second remnant focused on IT and database issues. We look forward to serving you in the coming year.

