

# EDITORIAL

## CourierPolicy

The Courier is published every Friday when classes are in session during the Fall and Spring Semesters, except for the first and last Friday of each Semester and the week of and the week after Spring Break as a public forum with content chosen by student editors. One copy free, additional copies available upon request.

Views expressed in editorials represent opinions of the majority of the Editorial Board, made up of all of the Courier editors.

The Courier does not knowingly accept advertisements that discriminate on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, handicapped status, veteran, or sexual orientation, nor does it knowingly print ads that violate any local, state or federal laws.

The Courier encourages all students, faculty, staff, administrators and community members to voice their opinions on all the topics concerning them both in and out of school.

Writers can express their views in a letter to Letters to the Editor. All correspondence and letters for publication must be typed and signed with the author's daytime phone number.

The editor-in-chief may withhold the author's name on request. Deliver all correspondence to SRC 1560 between regular office hours, or mail to the Courier, College of DuPage, 425 Fawell Blvd., Glen Ellyn, Ill. 60137.

Letters also may be sent by e-mail. The subject heading to the e-mail message must read "Letter to the Editor." The writer's first and last names, street address, city, state and complete phone number with area code must be included for identity verification by the Courier. Deadline for letters meant for publication is noon Monday before publication. E-mail letters can be sent electronically to editor@cdnet.cod.edu.

Letters are subject to editing for grammar, style, language, length and libel.

All letters represent the views of their author.

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## College needs to hit refresh button on website and increase functionality

As College of DuPage re-designs its website and reevaluates its web presence, there are a few changes that must be made in order to reflect the technological generation we live in.

### A search engine that searches

Here's a fun exercise to see just how inadequate College of DuPage is in their search engine's ability to accurately search for, well, anything.

Open up Google and type in the search bar "College of DuPage Global Flicks" and see what you get. The very first link will take directly to the Global Flicks 2007 homepage at [www.cod.edu](http://www.cod.edu).

Now then, go to COD's homepage, and click on the search link at the bottom of the page. Once there, type in the same thing you just searched for on Google, and look at the top result: the homepage for the Health Sciences division at College of DuPage. At least it got the school right.

College of DuPage needs a viable search engine that can instantly search throughout the hundreds of web pages tied to [www.cod.edu](http://www.cod.edu) and accurately pull up the information needed. What is the point of having all of the information on the website if it is too difficult to locate?

The search engine must be easily accessible and located on the home page.

### MyCOD needs to be My COD

The integration between [www.cod.edu](http://www.cod.edu) and MyCOD needs to be tighter than it is now. Currently, you cannot even get back to the COD home page from the MyCOD homepage without clicking back on your web browser, which is hardly efficient.

COD should also implement a universal log-in that works for both MyCOD and COD's main site. Between logging in to register for classes or run a degree audit, logging into MyCOD to check assignments and logging into Anlon or Blackboard for classes that use those systems, it's just too much. One log-in on COD's home page would work wonders.

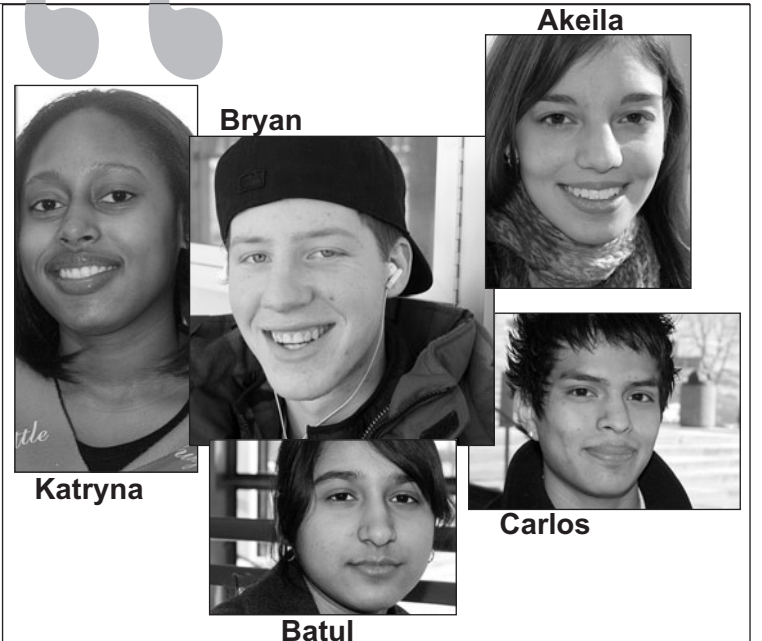
### More clarity, less ambiguity

What is the difference between registration, admissions, and records? To look for classes, should you click on the "Catalog" link or the "Classes" link? How many clicks will it take from the COD home page to reach the home page of the photography department?

All of those are questions the average website user will have, and COD needs to address all of them and make as much information available as quickly as possible.

COD is a large institution, and its web presence must be incredibly functional and easy to use.

## Staff Editorial



Katryna

Bryan

Akeila

Carlos

Batul

## "What are your plans for Valentine's Day?"

**Bryan Burke, 18** *general education, Darien*

"I already bought a gift. I went to Tiffany's and got a necklace and ring, but I'm a cheap ass and got it at a low price."

**Batul Mundrawal, 18** *business, Bolingbrook*

"I'm going out to dinner with a bunch of friends."

**Akeila LeClaire, 18** *theatre, Downers Grove*

"I haven't made any plans yet but I plan, hope to do something with my boyfriend."

**Katryna Thomas, 19** *fashion, Naperville*

"I won't be able to celebrate it because I'm driving to New Orleans and I'll be in the car all day."

**Carlos Cortes, 20** *business, Carol Stream*

"I'm planning on roses, I'm going to try and get a necklace for her too."

## In Your Words

## Is Valentine's Day an important holiday?

### PointCounterPoint

**A** Hallmark holiday it is not. Valentine's Day is just as important as many other holidays we celebrate year in and year out.

Sure, there's a lot of commercialism involved with February 14, but the same goes for many other holidays. Gripping about Valentine's Day being a Hallmark holiday because candy, flowers and cards are involved is a copout. Have some

heart. Besides, who cares about the commercialism? At its core, Valentine's Day doesn't cost a penny. It's one day out of the year where people celebrate and express their love for the people close to them. How each individual does it is entirely up to him or her.

We dedicate days on the calendar to a plethora of people and occasions, so how bad is having one day dedicated to love? The argument that Valentine's Day alienates and

pains those that are single is a boring one. Wouldn't the other 364 days in a year someone is single be just as bad? Love and relationships might not be as prominent or "in your face" as they are on Valentines Day, but it's only one day out of the year, and if people can make it through all of their other single days, managing Valentine's Day should be a breeze.

### Yes

Some think Valentine's Day is unnecessary and that there's no need for a holiday to tell someone when it's time to show their loved ones they care. Following that logic, there's no need for Mother's Day or a Veteran's Day, either. Yes, recognizing and appreciating those around us is something that we should strive to do on a regular basis, but there's nothing wrong with picking a day out of the year for celebration and reflection. I choo-choo-choose to enjoy Valentine's Day.

Researched by Robert Bykowski, Editor-in-Chief

PointCounterPoint topics are selected, researched and written by the staff of the Courier and aim to reflect differing opinions on the same subject. The opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the author.

**O**nce an occasion to pass poems to a lover, Valentine's Day has become a money driven holiday that supports multiple industries, while separating society into two stressed groups: singles, and couples.

On Valentine's Day couples do as they're told and exchange cards, candies, underwear, teddy bears, flowers, and jewelry, supporting big business like the corporations demand.

For the singles, no other holiday really accomplishes Valentine's Days level of loneliness, stress, and segregation from the rest of the population. Other holidays can be lonely, but singles can usually spend time with family and friends. Yet on Feb. 14, friends and family might be a little busy.

Valentine's Day goes much farther than gift giving alone; you have to plan a romantic

date someplace where they have at least two forks on each side of the table. Now, if you didn't get your clear message gift, or at least a nice signal at the end of desert, new couples can often be on different levels concerning what's happening after dinner and wine.

If you are one of the busy couples on Valentines Day make sure to get the right gift, you don't want someone to feel unloved, or not loved enough in our monetary world. Coach purses are becoming more popular.

It comes as no surprise that more couples break up right before, after, and during Valentine's Day, compared with the rest of the year. So, relax singles. You might not be as segregated as thought.

Couples, you too can relax when it's over. You just got out of buying flowers and saying I love you for the other 364 days of the year.

Researched by William Martin, Features Editor

# OPINION

## Editorial Cartoon



## On Our Web

The weather outside is frightful, so we would like to know how traveling around COD has been for you.

Have the parking lots been plowed quickly?

Have you experienced any parking related issues?

Have you been in an accident on campus?

Are there any improvements that need to be made in how COD handles bad weather?

Email us your responses by Tuesday afternoon at [editor@cod.edu](mailto:editor@cod.edu)

You can also answer the question by clicking the link on our website at [www.cod.edu/courier](http://www.cod.edu/courier)

## Letters to the editor

send letters to: [editor@cod.edu](mailto:editor@cod.edu)

### Students have the power

I wanted to congratulate you all on the fantastic job you did on the cover story of the January 26th paper. I was astonished to find out about some of the actions of those who supposedly work for us. Now I find out that the administration is planning on increasing the tuition for in-district students to \$103 dollars per credit hour? How come the largest community college in the Midwest also has the highest tuition? Higher than Triton, Morton, and Wabauunsee does not make sense. Apparently, the only way COD can afford to waste millions of dollars on building projects that never happen, and pay the \$100,000+ salaries of do nothing administrators and deans is to increase tuition. I for one am angry that their actions go unchallenged! These people need to know that it is not right what they are doing! Dr. Chand and Mr. McKinnon continue to make decisions about the future of this college as they see fit and don't feel they are accountable to anyone! This is wrong! These two need to understand that they work for the students and the community, not for their own personal interest. They claim to have deep concerns for the college community yet their actions differ from what they say. This school has some deep seeded

problems and they need to be fixed. Trustee Herron, in her departure, has brought a lot of this into light. The students need to be aware of what is happening and voice their opposition to this road that the college is being steered down. We have the power, not them! They work for us and have no real power, except that which we allow them to have. College of DuPage is a great school with a great future, as long as the present administration doesn't run it into the ground.

Sincerely,

Eve Bathe  
COD Student

### Architecture club exhibit impressive

To Whom It May Concern:

I was sorry to hear that the Architecture Club's exhibit, "Leveling Up," opened eight days later than originally planned; however, I went to the opening and was really impressed by the terrific models, great graphic images, and innovative use of lighting and projected images. All of these positive aspects were mentioned in the recent article by Greg Ochab "Better Never Than Late?" but they seemed overshadowed by the fact that the exhibit started later than expected.

I'm sure everyone involved

learned something from the experience, and I'm glad it was not cancelled. The student work on display is definitely worth seeing.

Lisa Higgins  
Professor of English

### Student Leader ignored in 2003

Trustees Jane Herron and Mary Sue Brown were the only two board members to voice their concerns against the tuition increase vote in 2005. Mary Sue Brown was the only one who voted against it.

The tuition was raised to cover construction costs and this information can be found in the board minutes.

What I doubt is in the minutes was what I was told directly by Trustee Fawell. She claimed that they had to raise tuition because, "students didn't do enough to get the referendum passed."

At the same time, I never once saw her out there with us as we walked door to door to get community support for the referendum.

In the Courier article it sounds like Herron feels as though the board doesn't listen attentively and I can concur with her feelings.

As former Student Body President, I was a student representative to the board and it was my job to speak to the board for the purpose of raising student concerns.

I was never taken seriously by them, or by some of the administration, and it was blatantly obvious.

In 2003, the board voted on a tuition increase of about 5% and a pay raise to the same exact administration that was clueless to the student voice and concerns. It was in that same meeting that I asked the board and administration if they could just take a walk around the campus and talk to students to get a feel of their community and I was visibly scoffed at by Trustee Mike McKinnon.

Right after I suggested that, I requested information on the plan to save or cut costs in the school with which I had received no reply.

I had also brought up the fact that the sooner the school began including renewable energies into their construction philosophies and plans, the sooner the savings would begin. I was told that the school was thinking of adding solar panels to the parking lot lights.

This was not enough for involving green design philosophies in my opinion.

I felt that since the school was raising tuition and not planning to cut costs in the one of the biggest expense areas of the budget that more had to be done.

So, I put together an Environmental Stewardship Policy with the help of many different minds of the school to show COD how they could save money through implementing renewable energies.

The policy calls for energy saving plans, better public

transportation support, and green design standards which COD desperately needs.

I also felt that if the college mission statement included environmental stewardship but involved not one policy to guide such a mission, that the construction phase of College of DuPage would keep getting more and more costly for the school.

The goal of the construction plans were not to take care of the environment as a whole but just to take from it. I also worked with other employees of the college to raise important issues such as the original proposals for three parking garages at \$30 million each.

Not one study performed by the school concluded that we needed three parking garages; especially if one of the parking garages was planned to be as big as the IC Building.

Knowing this, I felt that it was irresponsible to build three parking garages as did several other members of the institution.

The Facilities Master Plan has evolved many times over since I was in office which is to be expected, but like Herron feels, some mistakes have been made along the way.

A responsible and publicly elected board is supposed to listen attentively, recognize mistakes made and then want to fix them, not disregard their constituency's concerns, ignore continuing problems, and have then have the tax payers and students foot the bill.

Melissa Foerstel  
Community Member