

# 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 Tuesday before publication. E-mail letters can be sent electronically to editor@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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## Register your right

If you want to help choose the next U.S. president, your first step is voter registration.

Two community groups on campus (DuPage Against War Now and National Association for the Colored People) are making it easier with a painless, five-minute process that gets you ready for November.

Don't know the 4-1-1 on whether you should register?

Here are some simple Q&As to bust some of the myths.

To start, you must be 1) a U.S. citizen, 2) at least age 18, and 3) have an address.

1. "Do I need an ID to register?"

YES. Two forms of ID are needed to register. If registering in person, proof of a valid current address is

necessary and if a person registers via mail or online a driver's license number or the last four digits of your social security number is needed.

2. "If I register at COD does that mean that I have to vote at COD as well?"

NO. A person who registers to vote at COD does not have to vote at COD. Once registered, a voters identification card will be mailed to each individual. The voter must go to the location noted on the card.

3. "How do I know where to vote?"

Eligible voters can register year around except 14 days before the election. Voters can register at the county clerk's office, board of elections office, city and village offices, township offices, precinct commit-

tee offices, K-12 public schools, public libraries and military recruitment offices. People can register online, mail or in person at one of the designated locations.

4. "Do I have to re-register?"

The only time eligible voters need to re-register is if there is a change in address or legal name. Once registered (in exception to address or name change) a voter is valid until death.

5. "Can a felon register?"

YES. Felons can vote as long as they are not in confinement.

6. "Do I need my voter registration card to vote?"

NO. The voter registration card is not necessary, but helps as a solid form of identification.

7. "What is an absentee ballot?"

An absentee ballot may be requested for citizens with a disability or who are serving in the military deployments and cannot vote in person due to physical or location problems.

For more information, go to <http://www.dupageelections.com/main.asp> - the DuPage County Election Commission.

Polls will be open from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Nov. 4 for the general election. DAWN and NAACP are proactive organizations that want to get as many eligible students registered.

The process to register is simple, fast and convenient and DAWN and NAACP will be gone after today.

## Staff Editorial



Daniel

Else

Faye

Nicole

Richard

## Who is your vice presidential choice?

**Daniel Zhang, 19** *chemistry, Hinsdale*

"I would choose Biden for vice president because he's older, more experienced and gets more ladies to vote for him."

**Else Oliver, 18** *journalism, Hinsdale*

"My favorite vice president is Biden because I like his ideas."

**Faye Kapanitsanos, 19** *undecided, Bloomingdale*

"I like Palin for vice president because I've heard her speak and I like what she has to say."

**Richard Giegory, 19** *nursing, Lombard*

"I think Sarah Palin would be a good vice president because she supports my political opinions."

**Nicole Kamba, 18** *undecided, Brookfield*

"I would pick Palin because she thinks she is qualified to run foreign policies from standing on an island in Alaska and seeing an abandoned part of Russia."

## In Your Words

## Is affirmative action fair?

### PointCounterPoint

**A**ffirmative action is one of those topics that is neither black nor white but entirely gray.

With no definitive answer research must be done to form an educated opinion.

And when looking at the facts not only is affirmative action fair but it is also needed.

When looking at the U.S. population Blacks make up around 15 percent of the population.

Yet when it comes to the top schools in America they don't even make up 9 percent. Only 7 percent of the students are black at Harvard, Dartmouth and Penn State. Eight percent of the students are Black at Princeton, Yale and Brown University.

The majority of these universities accept prospective students based on legacy.

If they had parents that attended then it would be easier to get in.

Now if only 8 percent are Black and another 8 percent are Hispanic how much more difficult would it be for minorities to get in since they vast majority are non-legacy?

This is why it is necessary for quotas to be kept for schools.

It levels the playing field for minorities, who have a more difficult time getting accepted otherwise.

Although there is not right or wrong answer to affirmative action it is clear to see that it is necessary in today's society.

Affirmative action helps minorities by giving them a chance at attending high-end universities they would otherwise not get into.

**Yes**

**No**

**T**here is no doubt that affirmative action was created to combat the injustices of racism, but that doesn't mean that it isn't promoting it only in a different way.

Entrance application quotas in higher education institutions are unfair because it protects minorities from competing with regular applicants.

It guarantees a certain number of

spaces for minorities but doesn't guarantee the best student is getting accepted. Would you want a sub-standard medical student practicing his or her clinicals on you?

Affirmative action in the forms of quotas is also a form of reverse discrimination.

In 1978, the U.S. Supreme Court voted in favor of Allan Bakke in the landmark case

Regents of the University of California vs. Bakke that he was discriminated against being a white, non-minority.

He had scored high enough to get accepted into the University of California, Davis, Medical School, but was denied because the regular applicant quota had already been met.

However, minority students that scored significantly lower than him got accepted.

If you had been denied acceptance into the best school for your field of study, but someone else less qualified than you was accepted based mainly on race, wouldn't you feel ripped off?

In the end, race-based affirmative action hurts minorities because it gives society the impression that you need to play the race card in order get what you want.

Researched by Juan Garza, News Editor

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.

# OPINION

**Editorial Cartoon**

by Jason Retuta



## —Write a Letter to the Editor—

The *Courier* accepts letters to the editor from students, staff, faculty and community members. Letters are due by noon on the Tuesday prior to publication. Letters must include the authors name, occupation (student, staff or community member) daytime phone number and street address for identity verification.

Letters can be dropped off at the *Courier* office during regular business hours, mailed to the College of DuPage at 425 Fawell Blvd., Glen Ellyn, IL 60137 or e-mailed to editor@cod.edu.

Please place "Letter to the Editor" in the subject line.

IDEAS: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

# Dear Editor,

### Nuga for President

According to the cover story of the Sept. 26th issue of the *Courier*, community members in DuPage are voicing their frustrations with the Board of Trustees over a number of different issues. One of the most crucial issues currently facing the board is the selection of a new president. Although the search for a new president can be a daunting and costly task, this is a task that COD can easily resolve by looking within.

The administrators, faculty and classified employees are the heart of the college and are the people who are most affected by the Board's decisions. I am sure that there are several qualified individuals within their ranks who have solid leadership skills and an intimate understanding of the college's internal operations. But one person stands out in the crowded field of talent at COD and that person is Adenuga Atewologun.

"Nuga", as I have heard people call him, has been at COD for 19 years and is currently the dean of the natural and applied sciences division. This division covers the fields

of biology, chemistry, physical science, earth science, engineering, electronics, mathematics, pre-medicine, and pre-pharmacy. These fields of study are also the same fields that are going to make up a large portion of the classes that will be housed in the new buildings that COD is spending millions to construct and apparently are what the Board believes will be the future fields of choice for community residents.

Atewologun also recently was selected to be part of the Fellows Program with the prestigious American Council of Education (ACE). This Fellows Program is the premier higher education program that is designed to train the future leaders of American colleges and universities. I have been informed that Nuga is currently on sabbatical in Washington state to train for the Fellows Program by working with presidents and vice-presidents of other universities.

By having a connection to the college, a background in a division that is expanding, and leadership skills endorsed by a prestigious award, plus a great working

relationship with many of the employees at COD, I believe that Adenuga Atewologun would be an excellent and an efficient choice for president of the college. But would such a qualified person want to take the helm of a college in troubled waters or abandonment as many others in leadership positions at the college have done in recent years? I wouldn't blame someone for walking away from the mess that COD is becoming, but I would admire someone who attempted to clean up that mess and make COD the educational leader it has the potential to be.

Michael Foerstel  
 Community member  
 and former COD student  
 Hodgkins, Ill

### Kudos

Hats off to Juan Garza for an excellent synthesis of the September 18 COD Board of Trustees' meeting. While our other local newspapers either fail to cover the important news at COD or write somewhat fuzzy accounts, Garza takes the time to try to under-

stand the issues surrounding the Presidential Search, interview those involved, and chase down the facts. Hard to believe this professionalism is coming from a student! Keep up the good work, Juan!

Regards,  
 Tabassum Haleem  
 Naperville, Ill

### A response to a letter

In response to Mr. Lela's letter posted Sept. 26. Mr. Lela points out one particular study's result printed in a "Psychology Today" magazine. For some time I have had the "10 percent of the population is homosexual," figure in my head.

For all that time, may I say, that huge figure of 10 percent has been like a great big security blanket for me. Wow, now that Mr. Lela has pointed out that the large 10 percent figure is actually 6 percent I may just start feeling a little bit more insecure? Well it is possible that "x percent of" statement alone could represent unity? And to think I was convinced that all of Mr. Lela's letters and campus visits were geared towards dividing people based on sexual orientation.

Mr. Lela there is a part in one of your lines that I especially liked, where you stated "...people can be happily heterosexual even though they

don't have any heterosexual genes." Now Mr. Lela, I have heard rumors that you used to identify as being homosexual. Is that true Mr. Lela?

Whether it is true or not that you used to be a fellow homosexual, there are some people who fit that pattern. Some people claim they have made that "conversion" from homosexual to heterosexual.

Good for you Mr. Lela, you may have boosted the self esteem in some people that made that "conversion," on the other hand, Mr. Lela, maybe the target of your letter was your own self esteem?

Finally, Mr. Lela's last sentence gave me a chuckle because it provides all the proof that a person needs to conclude he is a self proclaimed expert into not some, but all of the minds of homosexuals. You stated "All homosexuals should have to do..." so maybe if you are lucky Mr. Lela, then each and every homosexual will follow through with your all mighty solution that you claim they are seeking.

If you are extra lucky Mr. Lela, and after every last homosexual follows your solution, maybe then they will all come to you to be your new closest friends.

Sincerely,  
 John Wixted  
 COD student

### Corrections and Clarifications

In last week's Letter to the Editor from Wayne Lela, ellipses should have been used to indicate that the quote was not continuous.

## Write a letter to the editor.

Send an email to:  
 editor@cod.edu

Or, stop by our office in SRC  
 1560.

## Be heard.

Please call Shannon Torii,  
 Editor-in-Chief at (630) 942-  
 2683 with any questions.