

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.

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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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Finding Board video/minutes should be easier

The Board of Trustees has taken steps to increase transparency that many have voiced does not exist. Now those interested in Board meetings don't have to actually be at the meeting; they can watch on the Internet or on selected local cable channels.

This opens the doors to new horizons in terms of accessibility. The demand for board meetings may appear dismal only because many may be unaware of their viewing/listening options.

If there were more ways of accessing the board meetings, more people would have the opportunity to understand what happens at the meetings. Although tuning out of your favorite television program to tune into a board meeting is unlikely, you should still have the opportunity to see/hear the meeting.

To entice those curious to know what's happening at meetings, perhaps DVDs in the Library can be arranged. More students also may be interested in seeing tidbits of the meetings if they were on YouTube.

Although YouTube limits most clips to 12 minutes, special accounts can be made to increase the time limit. Shining Stars of students who receive board recognition could send their two minutes of fame to peers and relatives.

This is instant gratification for those Shining Stars who worked toward and accomplished their academic goals.

For those more interested in what is said at meetings, audio minutes should be transferred to iTunes for an iCODBoard account.

For many, listening to monthly board meetings on cable access or a video streaming computer is unimportant as part of everyday life.

However, examining the public record never has been more important as incumbents and challengers decide whether to run for four open board terms in April.

Every decision made by these volunteer board members in College District 502 affects thousands of students, staff and community members, and involves tax and tuition dollars in the multi-millions.

Although staff works quickly and professionally to process official audio minutes for quick distribution online access, it can take up to a few days and time is lost for the public. The immediate record of the actual College Board Meeting is the video that makes decisions come alive for the public.

Audio and video recordings offer an immediacy that is becoming more important each day as the board continues its strong commitment to public accountability.

Staff Editorial



Amanda C

Amanda A

Nicole

Do you know who you are going to vote for and why?

Amanda Cooper, 18 *forensic science, Bensenville*

"Obama. I think that he is of high moral character and he has good ideas. He visited my high school so he has had more of an impact on me"

Devin Hansen, 20 *undecided, Naperville*

"I'm not voting. I haven't studied the candidates enough to make a wise decision."

Josh Kunowski, 19 *computer information system, Carol Stream*

"I'm not voting. I don't know enough about politics to vote."

Nicole Kane, 19 *biotechnology, Lisle*

"Obama, because of the education reform.. how he is going to make the financial aid process, simpler."

Amanda Amundson, 25 *fine arts, Woodridge*

"I think I am going to vote for McCain. He seems like he would be the best president."

In Your Words

Based on higher education, who should you vote for?

PointCounterPoint

In this coming presidential election the candidates will be scrutinized based on their views of certain topics, ranging from our current economic status to their opinion on the theory of evolution.

The plans laid out by Obama is much more relevant to current and perspective students. While McCain believes tax benefits should be easier to get he doesn't seem to touch on the here and now problem of paying for higher education.

Obama plans to create the American Opportunity Tax Credit, which will give 4,000 dollars in return for a minimum of 100 hours of community services. This tax credit will not only cover two-thirds the cost of tuition but will also make community college tuition free for the majority of people. This tax credit not

only helps the students pay for college in return of community service. How many of us would have a problem putting in 100 hours of community service for four grand? If we put in salary terms then the government would be paying us 40 dollars an hour for our services.

Not only does Obama want to create a tax credit but plans on reforming the current system on financial aid.

Rather than filling out the separate FAFSA form Obama plans on making it simple by just checking a box on our tax forms.

The Pell Grant award gives out 4,050 dollars to its recipients. In his first bill Obama wanted to increase the money awarded to 5,100 dollars. Higher education reform is nothing new to Obama.

Higher education might be taking a back seat to other issues but we cannot forget its importance. In effect to the worsening economy, students will feel the crunch while going through college. This week we will determine our higher educational future.

Presidential Candidate John McCain believes that the answer to ease the competition from overseas is not to put more regulations on institutions, but to remove barriers that prevent students from moving forward.

He believes that parents should receive Institution reports in a clear manner to help inform their child about their choices.

McCain believes that tax benefits should be easier to get and simplifying the Fed-

eral Financial Aid process to help students understand their eligibility for aid.

McCain also wants to improve and simplify student lending programs while still ensuring funding of higher education aspirations.

Unlike Obama's idea of free college for most Americans in return of community service, McCain's ideas of higher education seem more realistic.

While Obama's idea circulates like fresh air, it's hard to imagine it actually falling through without any repercussions. His idea of paying for college puts a high price on community service that may have students questioning, "how much I am getting paid an hour?"

McCain views on higher education... improve and simplify.

Obama

McCain

Researched by Eli Rodriguez, Sports Editor

Researched by Shannon Torii, 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.

OPINION

Editorial Cartoon

by Jason Retuta

Now playing...
iCODBoard
Streaming video



Full, rich multi-media for the board meeting enthusiast in you.

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,

Trustee responds to editorial

I write in response to your editorial of October 24, 2008 entitled "Courier put under pressure" as well as the letter to the editor co-authored by the Courier entitled "Keep 5715 alive."

Unreferenced in your editorial concerning our two and a half hour discussion on Oct. 20 regarding proposed Board Policy 20-100 were my comments to you regarding the College Campus Press Act (the "Act"). Based on your editorial, your readers would incorrectly conclude that the purpose of the language you object to in proposed Board Policy 20-100 ("The College President will be responsible for overseeing student publications") is merely to remind the president "that he is responsible for everything at the college, including student publications[.]" While that was one purpose expressed for including the objected to language in proposed Board Policy 20-100, that was not the primary reason.

For the benefit of your readers, I would like to again explain to you the legal basis for including the language you object to in proposed Board Policy 20-100. All of the proposed Board policies were drafted to ensure that College of DuPage is fully compliant with all applicable laws. Trustee Carlin and I worked closely with the Board's attorneys in preparing the proposed policy manual. Proposed Board Policy 20-100 was drafted with the Act specifically in mind. The Act provides in relevant part, "Campus media . . . is not subject to prior review by public officials of a State-sponsored institution of higher learning." However, the Act "does not prevent a collegiate media advisor from teaching profes-

sional standards of grammar and journalism to collegiate student journalists." The Act defines a "collegiate media advisor" as "a person who is employed, appointed, or designated by the State-sponsored institution of higher learning to supervise or provide instruction relating to campus media."

No one would reasonably object to a community college teaching its student journalists professional standards of grammar and journalism. A reading of the Act suggests that teaching professional standards of grammar and journalism can occur under the Act only if the State-sponsored institution of higher learning (i.e., the College of DuPage acting through its Board of Trustees) explicitly employs, appoints, or designates a "campus media advisor" to "supervise or provide instruction relating to campus media." As has been discussed during our presidential search process, the only person at College of DuPage that the Board of Trustees directly employs, appoints, or designates (with very limited exceptions) is the college president. Indeed, most of the Board's authority is delegated to the college president who in turn delegates authority to his or her subordinates. Therefore, proposed Board Policy 20-100 merely designates the only person the Board can properly designate to be the campus media advisor to ensure that our students receive appropriate instruction consistent with the Act.

As I also explained during our discussion, the college president will be responsible for supervising (not teaching) instruction relating to campus media. This is not unusual. The president already has implicit authority to supervise all aspects of college operations, including oversight over all student

publications. In practice, this supervision is on a global scale with day-to-day supervision properly delegated to the appropriate college personnel. The president's authority to supervise campus media instruction is made explicit in proposed Board Policy 20-100 to meet the apparent requirements of the Act. As I stated during our conversation, proposed Board Policy 20-100 will not change how any student publication (including the Courier) currently operates.

Additionally, it should be noted that the Act does not give student journalists free reign to do all that they please. The Act specifically provides that it does not prohibit "the imposition of discipline for harassment, threats, or intimidation . . . or for speech that is not constitutionally protected, including obscenity and incitement."

I would like to make two points with regard to the letter to the editor entitled "Keep 5715 alive." First, I explained during my presentation to the Board of Trustees on Oct. 13 that the proposed policy manual was being presented to the Board for its consideration and for consideration by the college commu-

nity. The Board has invited all community members to submit written comments to the Board as it evaluates the proposed policy manual. I believe the issues raised in your letter would have been more constructively raised in written comments to the Board rather than a letter suggesting improper motives on my part and the part of the other Trustees.

Second, as I also stated during my presentation to the Board on Oct. 13 the proposed policy manual is the first step in updating the college's policy manual. The policy manual is designed to provide broad governing statements. The next step in the process is to develop proposed administrative procedures which will provide detail on the interpretation and implementation of those broad statements. The items raised in your letter would seem to be better suited for an administrative procedure manual rather than a policy manual. I will keep those items (as well as all items raised in written comments submitted to the Board Secretary) in mind as this process moves forward.

- Kory Atkinson
College of DuPage Trustee

Opinions are in fact, opinions

It is increasingly clear that Wayne Lela enjoys a good argument. Yet, it is also obvious that he feels he must be correct in each and every one of these arguments, for alas, his opinion is fact, after all. (Yes, you smell sarcasm.)

The College of DuPage is a community college, and thereby reserves the right to demonstrate the voice, more important, the opinion, of the community. But I've had enough misrepresentation from people like Wayne Lela. Does anyone ever agree with this basket case?

I feel it is time for Mr. Lela to step off of the anti-gay propaganda stage and embrace a more loving route that agrees everyone is equally human, or else he should step off our academic stage and keep his self-righteousness out of our school paper.

If he deems himself worthy enough to critique a professor, perhaps we should help ourselves to critique his own arguments. Let me simply state here, that while he feels the human body was created for phallic-vaginal intercourse, and that is it's *only* function according to him, perhaps if he were privileged to indulge in this function for once would he relent on his hatred for another group because they're able to score more than him.

What Mr. Lela proposes, week after week, and year

after year, is that the justification for his opinions supersedes those one may have for any point opposing his own.

He claims there is no evidence supporting the opinion that should homosexuality be somehow inevitable in a person, this inability to change a fundamental characteristic does not lead to justification for actions related to this inevitability. Um, beg pardon, but has anyone even read his justifications for his opinion?

Does he know that everything, even "facts," revolve around the base that opinions, at the end of the day, are opinions!? That's exactly what I'm writing: an opinion.

Wayne Lela. You've got plenty of opinions. Good for you, you get a sticker. But your anti-gay propaganda is not fact-ridden, and neither is my pro-love message.

This is a community college, moreover, it is a place for intellectuals to thrive and better themselves. If you are willing to educate us in a more professional manner, then I have no qualms.

If you are going to impede on this process by presenting your opinions as facts, then keep off our journey, and go stand in a corner with your sticker. Are you in, or are you out?

-Joshua Meyer
Spanish Education Major