

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.

CourierStaff

Editor

Shannon Torii
942-2683
editor@cod.edu

News

Juan Garza
942-2153
news@cod.edu

Features

Alex Glas
942-2660
features@cod.edu

A&E

Jason Retuta
942-2713
arts@cod.edu

Sports

Eli Rodriguez
942-2531
sports@cod.edu

Photography

Amanda Kral
942-3066
photo@cod.edu

Graphics

Maureen Mladucky
942-3113
graphics@cod.edu

Advertising

Joanne Leone
942-3379
leonej@cod.edu

Adviser

Cathy Stablein
942-2650
stablein@cod.edu

Fax

942-3747

Academic Bills of Rights gives false notion of reality

Adoption of the controversial and politically-charged Academic Bill of Rights placed into college policies will not encourage intellectual diversity as much as pit liberals against conservatives and students against teachers.

One such would be the Academic Bill of Rights, a document that should not be incorporated into the college philosophy.

ABOR is a deceiving utopia of academic standards with good language that embraces intellectual diversity, but there is no such place as a utopia, the language is vague and intellectual diversity should be challenged. If a group thought it would be a good idea to bring guns to school, their underrepresented idea shouldn't be embraced, but challenged.

The driving force behind the policy change is Trustee Kory Atkinson and his relationship with the author of ABOR, David Horowitz. COD would be the third campus in the United States to recognize student-specific academic freedom protections. Penn State University and Temple University have adopted freedom protections after state legislative hearings were held. Both universities had an

academic freedom policy but the state declared it only applied to professors, not students.

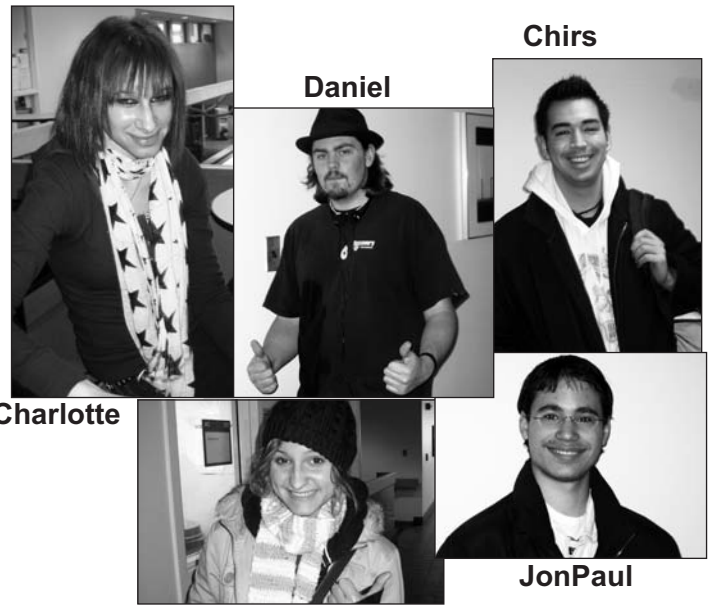
But after surveying deans at the college we found that approximately eight students in four years filed a grievance against a professor that they felt discriminated against them or punished them for their difference in opinion, resulting in a lower grade. The

current college policy, procedure 5107 Student Grievance Process protects students and few students file grievances.

The reality is not everyone will agree. Shielding students from reality is cruel. Teaching us that our opinions will be met with open arms is unrealistic. That would mean that the counter-side would have to embrace the opinions of others despite their beliefs. ABOR has conflicting beliefs within its dialogue.

Further research by a Board of Trustees with more diverse political affiliations must resolve whether ABOR should be adopted into the college policy and philosophy. This college should not be claimed as a victory for the supporters of ABOR as territory during the American Revolution. To adopt ABOR would prove detrimental in the long run.

Staff Editorial



Charlotte

Daniel

Chirs

Kristen

JonPaul

Nadya Suleman was offered \$1 million and healthcare for her 14 children if she does a porn. Should she do it?

Charlotte Nebergall, 20 *education, Naperville*

"No, because it is porn. It's gross and when the kids are grown up, it may show up. With the possibility that it would show up, the kids will bring it up to their mother and then they might think less of her."

Daniel Dahlgren, 18 *automotive engineering, Westmont*

"It's a personal choice but she needs to consider if doing the porn will come up in the future. She also needs to think about how she is going to support her children."

Chris Tamez, 24 *general education, Montgomery*

"Yes, because 14 kids. The extra money could help her, especially in this economy. Besides it's a good deal because it helps her children have health care."

Kristien Frank, 19 *general education, West Chicago*

"No, it's the lowest you can be and I don't understand why she would do it."

JonPaul Nemec, 17 *acting, Wheaton*

"No because she has so many kids and the offer is a one-time deal. She has to think about how it's not all about the money and to think about her kids."

In Your Words

Does the film, "Slumdog Millionaire" exploit Mumbai?

PointCounterPoint

Oscar winning motion picture, "Slumdog Millionaire" is set in Mumbai where thousands of slumdwellers live roofless on a swamp of cardboard strips.

The Los Angeles Times reported last year that some of Mumbai's poorest residents sit on the world's most valuable real estate.

Dharavi, formerly known as Bombay, is located in Mumbai. One architect commented that Dharavi is the only place where he can bulldoze 500 acres of land and redesign it.

Before the film even came out, the world was exploiting the slums.

Slumdog Millionaire would never of come to be without Mumbai's slums. The two child actors received 30 days of adult pay for partaking in the movie but now their par-

ents are caught on camera hitting their children because they were tiring of doing interviews for American television shows.

Director Danny Boyle's attempted to appease the children and their families with money and education in the slums. But with a film that grossed \$155 million, why not a plane ticket out of the slums?

Yes

The simple fact that a film that manipulates cultural differences to tell an enjoyable tale and make profit that is unbalanced to the counter culture is exploitation.

It unfair. "No one said that life was fair." True. But you can't deny the exploitation of Mumbai and its people while you pay to savor your Pepsi, buttered popcorn and film portraying the people of Mumbai.

Nabbing eight Academy Awards, including Best Picture and Best Director, "Slumdog Millionaire" initially was considered to be a remarkable tale of luck and love.

But some critics from both sides of the globe are insulted by the movie, for various reasons.

Why these people would want to demean the good that this movie has done for the city of Mumbai is disappointing.

Shot entirely on location with a cast of extras numbering in the thousands, the filming of Slumdog easily helped bring much needed revenue to an otherwise metropolis of a shantytown.

The cynics also criticized the production team of the movie for exploiting the impover-

ished condition of Mumbai for their own personal gain, but is it really the responsibility of the director and producer to take on the social struggle that their movie is portraying? I believe that is what India has a government for.

Based on the book "Q & A" by Indian author Vikas Swarup, "Slumdog Millionaire" brings glory to this progressive nation by highlighting its culture, while at the same time bringing awareness to the large population of orphans and widespread poverty that beleaguers the society.

Thanks to director Danny Boyle, the Indian people have been given something else to be proud of, and Americans are reminded of how good we have it here.

No

Researched by Shannon Torii, Editor-in-chief

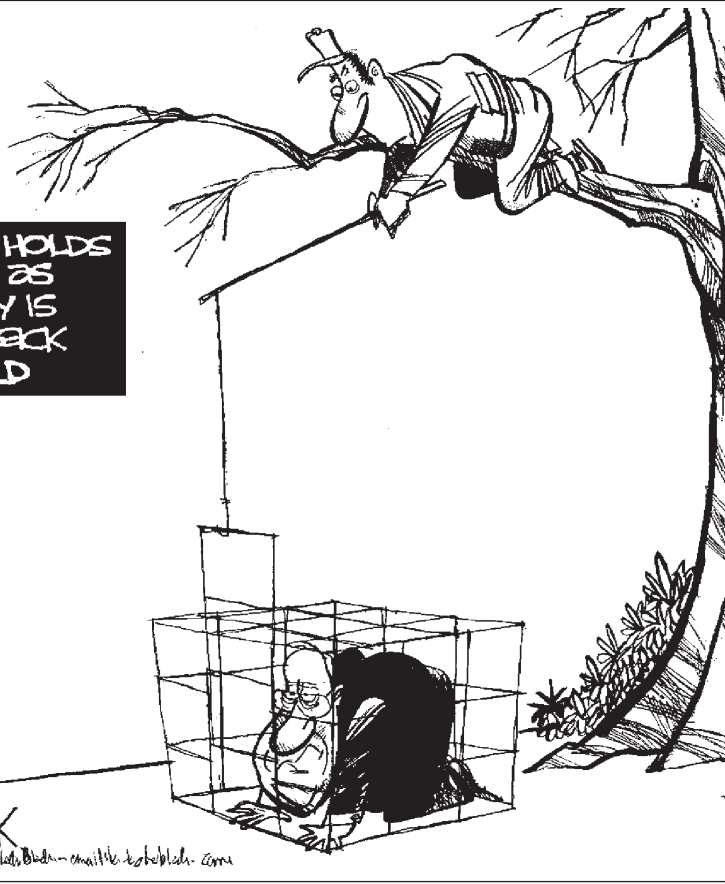
Researched by Juan Garza, News Editor

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

THE NATION HOLDS ITS BREATH AS DICK CHENEY IS RELEASED BACK INTO THE WILD



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,

The drama that played out in the makeshift courthouse that was the College of DuPage boardroom Feb. 24 left deep impressions both about the inadequacies of the law that governs the electoral process and the depths people will plumb to retain power. At issue that long afternoon and evening was the right of Sandy Kim to take her place on the ballot for the April election for the college's board of trustees. Sandy is arguably one of the most accomplished graduates in recent COD history. A review of the COD archives reveals that she was a member of the USA Today All Academic 3rd Team; she was President of the Student Leadership Council; as a veteran, she helped found the College of DuPage Veterans Association. Would we not delight in seeing former students grasp their civic responsibilities with the urgency displayed by Ms. Kim running for offices that are not even paid? You might think that members of the board of trustees of this college would think likewise. If so, you would be sorely mistaken; her candidacy had been challenged by one of its

members on some question of her residency.

Sandy Kim had made no mistakes in her application; there were no boxes left unchecked, no signatures of dubious origin, no variations in Christian name, no quibbles over numbers. Ms. Kim's fault, one was forced to conclude, was that she is a renter. In the objector's eyes, a lease signed in March 2008, and recently renewed, was irrelevant in establishing residence. No, rather fluidity in prior living arrangements was used to insinuate intent of impermanence, and thus she should be disqualified. The law is either a very subtle animal, or this was a crude and mischievous tactic. I have my own opinion; others may draw theirs.

There were no facts, just insinuation and speculation spun over several agonizing hours. I don't think it is going out on a limb to suggest that the only person in the room who found any traction in the preposterous argument advanced by the objector was the chairman of the electoral board, and let that not be forgotten. Mercifully the other two members saw sense, and Sandy Kim will be a candidate in the election, along

with others like Kim Savage, Tom Wendorf and Nancy Svoboda, people who care more about the college and the community than questionable self-interests.

*Richard ("Dick") Jarman, M.A., D.Phil (Oxon)
 Currently in Glen Ellyn*

A change has been proposed to Policy 20-155 of the Policy Manual of the College of DuPage Board of Trustees.

The current policy is as follows: Students may repeat courses previously taken at the college an unlimited number of times unless repetition is restricted.

The proposed revision is as follows: Students may repeat courses previously taken at the college up to three times unless repetition is restricted or an exception is granted by the Vice President of Student Affairs or his or her designee.

We believe that this proposed revision is fundamentally inconsistent with the Mission Statement of the College and therefore should not be adopted.

Our reasons are as follows:

- The revised policy

limits and restricts classroom availability, even to tax paying residents of the community. Such a policy does not serve "the needs of the community," a core principle of the Mission Statement.

- The revised policies disregards the fact that certain areas of study, such as the arts and physical education, can be repeated numerous times and still yield new insights, benefits and skills. This ongoing dynamic is a prime example of what the Mission Statement calls "lifelong learning."

The revised policy fails to support the college's role as "a center for the cultural and intellectual enrichment of our community." Repeating students in the arts, for example, often display their work in local exhibitions.

The revised policy destroys the unique learning communities that can be nurtured by students who repeat a class. Their experience blends with the fresh perspectives of new students to create a group that, in the words of the Mission Statement, "learns continuously through team effort and draws upon everyone's talents, work and creativity." This kind of learning is a hallmark of the College of DuPage.

The revised policy discriminates against older and non-traditional students, who are

more likely to focus a repeated effort in one learning area. Again, according to the Mission Statement, the College should "offer programs and services that are accessible." It should not deny access to certain groups, particularly older adults, who bear a larger share of the tax burden.

For these reasons, we strongly urge the Board of Trustees to retain the current policy, which allows students to repeat courses an unlimited number of times.

*John Hankiewicz
 Student, Westmont III.*

*Judy Leppert
 Student, Wheaton III.*

*Rochelle Easton Esposito
 Student, Hinsdale III.*

My name is Darlene Havard. I am a student at COD and I am writing this letter because I want to apologize to the COD Athletic Dept. Aquatic Facility Staff and their students.

I am sorry if I offended anyone at the pool at any time. My responsibility as a Christian is to apologize from my heart, whether I was right or whether I was wrong. If I offended someone an apology is necessary.

*Darlene Havard
 Student, Naperville III.*

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.