

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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Poised for next term

President's five P's shape COD's direction

Almost one year has gone by since Robert Breuder became president of the college and the transformation has been phenomenal. On Jan. 5, he delivered his first address to COD where he introduced the college to his five P's: price, place, product, promotion and people.

The transformation in terms of these five P's is evident.

Price: Tuition for most students stayed at \$116 while students of health and sciences curricula experienced a double in tuition.

Place: The previous plan to have a place with natural prairie grass has changed. Tallgrass Road now labels a street lined with sod.

Product: We are poised to enter a new structure for centers of excellence that will promote excellent teaching and learning.

Promotion: The promotional "Value of a Lifetime" campaign has been deployed throughout various forms of media.

People: The people is the part of Breuder's five P's that has had the most dramatic transformation. New upper administrative positions have been added and restructured. Support staff and faculty have been transferred and eliminated.

The Courier would like to add five other P's as we go into the new year and build the 2010-2011 budget: principles, priorities, pride, passion and

possibility.

Principles: It is essential for the college to uphold its core values of honesty, integrity, respect, responsibility.

Priorities: Student learning at a community college needs to be cost effective and convenient. The pressure to raise tuition will be enormous as state coffers empty out and the pressure hits the taxpayer. Already the college is preparing for a referendum in 2011 to raise its base operating revenue which would ease the pressure of tuition and shift the burden to the taxpayers.

Pride: COD has a rich history of award winning staff and students. In our promotional material we need to place these people first.

Passion: The college was built on the passion of its early founders. We know that we can't be everything to everyone, but with fewer resources, staff and students need the heart to persist beyond the current economic climate.

Possibility: The greatest of all of the P's is what hasn't been thought, hasn't been done and what hasn't been said. The president has started the ball rolling with his vision of the culinary arts center and the workforce development center. These and the other new buildings are only shells that must be perfected and preserved. They are nothing without the president and the people sharing a passion to promote a place of principled intentions.

Staff Editorial



What is your favorite thing to do over winter break?

Daisy Bueno, 19 *psychology, Addison*

"During this winter break I will probably be keeping up with my continuous running."

Chris Dapkus, 20 *fine arts, Glendale Heights*

"Over winter break I like to draw."

Christina Coclanes, 20 *education, Brookfield*

"Over break I spend time with family."

Cory Nicholson, 20 *criminal justice, Lombard*

"My favorite thing to do over winter break is to eat."

Jamell Hunter, 20 *sociology, Chicago*

"What I like to do. I like to party. That's what I like to do."

Maggie Malek, 26 *early education, Naperville*

"The best thing I like to do over winter break is snowboard."

Steve Gordon, 18 *undecided, Downers Grove*

"My favorite thing to do over winter break is to play hockey."

In Your Words

Should the economic benefits outweigh the security risks of moving Gitmo to Thompson, Illinois?

PointCounterPoint

The economic benefits of receiving Gitmo detainees on our soil highly outweigh any perceived security risks.

In addition to helping the country with the closing of controversial Gitmo, Illinois will receive around \$1 billion dollars for simply selling the prison to the federal government and allowing the housing of 100 suspected terrorists into maximum-security Thomson Correctional Center in Thomson, IL.

This injection of capital will help boost the state development and could help relieve the current crisis in the Illinois budget.

In addition to the money, the move will create around 3,000 jobs in a local Thomson economy that is currently battling with 10.5% unemployment. These jobs are open to anyone

qualified.

The security risks are grossly overestimated. Fears of detainees creating a terror cell or escaping are unfounded, since Thomson Correctional Center is a very safe and secure facility.

The prison is currently using less than ten percent of its max capacity. However, Gov. Pat Quinn, D-Ill., and Sen. Dick Durbin, D-Ill.,

are in support of turning it into a "super-maximum-security" facility, a level that no prisoner has ever escaped from.

The prospective prison will likely be safer than Gitmo was, without the torture. The fact that it will be on Illinois soil just brings the jobs, money and the satisfaction of helping our country here instead of Cuba, without sacrificing the safety of Illinoisans.

Economic

Security

Weighing in on the financial benefits of transferring Gitmo detainees to the center of American soil should not shadow the security risks it poses to the American public.

In a letter signed by the GOP congressional delegation, Rep. Mark Kirk warned that "our state and the Chicago Metropolitan Area

will become ground zero for Jihadist terrorist plots, recruitment and radicalization." Rep. Peter Roskam said that "terrorists have no place on American soil." Rep. Judy Biggert suggested that "detainees pose a unique threat to America's security and they should be kept away from our shores, and far from America's heartland."

"I adamantly oppose this plan to bring the terrorists to northwestern Illinois, where

they could one day be released into our communities," Republican Rep. Don Manzullo told the Chicago Sun-Times in support of Kirk's fears.

U.S. Sen. Dick Durbin dismissed the Republican opposition and focused on the possible financial benefits. Durbin said selling the Thomson Correctional Center could

land the cash-strapped state around \$200 million and bring 3,000 jobs to the area.

Durbin must be forgetting the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001 which shook the nation. What will happen when the justice system fails, as it has many times in the past, and terrorists are released on the streets of Illinois? Will money make a difference to a destroyed community?

Researched by Melissa Pointer, Features 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.