

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

December 17, 2013

A more transparent VVC?

Many articles and ads have appeared in the Daily Press during the past few weeks, showcasing the good works of the faculty and students of Victor Valley College. This positive press campaign is deserved, as there are numerous programs and opportunities at the college of which the community may be generally unaware. Governance at the college remains of concern. The board of trustees has taken several steps in the last month to work together— congratulations. A “thank you” is also due to Trustee Lorrie Denson for making a policy change in submitting requests to speak before the board. Trustee Denson has persuaded her colleagues to change the public comment card submission cutoff time to be the commencement of the public meeting at 6 p. m. instead of the commencement of closed session at 4 p.m. or 5 p.m.

Now we must work to make the board agenda packet available to the public. Nowhere can one find the entire agenda packet online. The only public copy is at the President's office during business hours.

Please tell me what employed concerned citizen can get to the college and read the agenda during business hours? None. So, when the agenda item is to identify and sunshine the negotiation issues (identified by number) for the union contracts, who speaks at the public hearing? No one. That is because the union contract is buried deep in the website and cannot be found.

Why are we hiding what every other public entity readily makes available to its constituency? I say stop hiding the agenda material and place it online for public review. Don't forget it is the “community” that is served by the community college.

Diana J. Carloni

Victorville