

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

May 23, 2013

Who's in charge?

With all of the recent leadership chaos at Victor Valley College, the bottom line is "who's driving the bus?"

The closed session portion of the May 14 Board of Trustees meeting brought no personnel decisions reported out to the public. One has only to assume, Chris O'Hearn withdrew his request for leave or it was not granted. Peter Allan, never officially appointed interim president, was unceremoniously introduced as such at the faculty soiree of May 13. He was just as unceremoniously dumped when O'Hearn showed up for work on May 15.

After O'Hearn was escorted off-campus on May 15 (who authorized that?), Mr. Allan is reported as being reinstated as interim president, but by whom? Should not that be an official action of the Board of Trustees? I saw no notice of a special meeting or emergency meeting! The Daily Press then quotes O'Hearn as saying he will be back to work and Michael Krause as saying he is resigning. The public remains in the dark.

The Administration team is dwindling, Peter Allan is retiring, Fusako Yokitobi is leaving, GH Javaheripour is a finalist for a position in San Bernardino.

A greater episode of the Keystone Cops has never been written. There is now no wondering why the college is in chaos.

Is the community call to action necessary? Given the above circumstances, you bet.

Diana Carloni

Victorville

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I found it interesting last week that Michael Krause resigned from the Victor Valley College Board of Trustees, but chose to stay through the next regularly scheduled meeting of the board, scheduled for June 11. I found a possible answer in the definition of the phrase "lame duck."

One definition says, a person not facing the consequences of their actions in a subsequent election, giving them greater free dom to issue unpopular decisions or appointments. So is this Mr. Krause' plan? It has been very clear for some time that Mr. Krause has supported the current leadership of Dr. Christopher O'Hearn at VVC. After all, O'Hearn wrote a letter of recommendation that helped land Krause his current job with a school district in the Whittier area. Is that why he's sticking around? To offer O'Hearn another contract when he clearly has not provided quality leadership to VVC?

I understand Mr. Krause will be living in Orange County and will not be here to feel the consequences of his actions, but we will. The students of VVC and the entire Victor Valley will be left to deal with the consequences of his actions at the June meeting. He didn't show at the regular May board meeting, he didn't show at the special May 3 board meeting, so he should do us a favor and not show at the June meeting.

But should he feel compelled to attend the June meeting for one last hurrah, he shouldn't give O'Hearn a new contract. There is enough work to do to get VVC off probation without last-minute decisions of a lame duck making it worse.

E. Ann Carr

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