

Leadership Key to VVC

July 3, 2013

It seems that Victor Valley College could use more leaders if the college ever expects to receive full accreditation without sanctions. The Community Call to Action group is right in asserting that transparency is lacking at VVC, apparently not just regarding the posting of the May 31 video but also regarding Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs).

How is it that the citizens of the Victor Valley learn about an agreement to pay faculty more money from our local newspaper only after it has been signed? Doesn't this extra pay come straight out of the pockets of us taxpayers? Isn't this a matter that should have been brought before the Board of Trustees, our elected representatives? Who is leading the college? And more importantly, who was leading it on May 16, 2013 when this MOU was signed?

Peter Allan was "officially" appointed acting superintendent/ president on June 11, 2013 at a meeting of the VVC board, and yet, somehow, he signed an MOU on May 16, 2013. How is that possible? Did the board give him authority? Did Superintendent/President Christopher O'Hearn tell him to do this? If so, he should not have signed it as he obviously was not "acting" anything and O'Hearn was still calling the shots. Incredibly, the MOU that was signed in May also happens to supersede a previous MOU dated Jan. 19, 2012 regarding Student Learning Outcomes development and assessment.

How many more MOUs will be signed, authorized or not, before SLOs are successfully completed and assessed? More importantly, how many more "leaders" — both elected and appointed — will cycle through before the mess at VVC is straightened out?

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