

OUR OPINION

## This 'n that

August 2, 2013  
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You've got to give Lorrie Denson, president of the Victor Valley College Board of Trustees, an A for persistence in trying not only to fill a vacancy on the board by following the board's traditional past procedures, but in believing that reason will eventually prevail among the board's deadlocked current members and some sort of acceptable compromise can be reached.

All evidence thus far, however, indicates that gridlock will prevail and a special election to name the fifth trustee will have to be held. Too bad.

The deadlock, as explained in articles in this newspaper and letters and op-eds published on the Opinion Page over the last several weeks, centers on whether Joe Range will be re-appointed to the board. Two trustees, Dennis Henderson and John Pinkerton, insist on Range, even though Range finished third among three candidates in the last board election. Mr. Range's supposed advantage at the polls — he was president and a long-time member of the board — wasn't a factor. Some 91,000 voters picked other candidates in the belief that VVC's still unresolved accreditation problems should properly be laid at his door. We agree.

Rumors over the last week or so say that a number of Victor Valley residents are on the verge of submitting applications to become the fifth trustee. We hear they may be made public at yet another special board meeting, which Ms. Denson has scheduled for Aug. 8. Good.

It's time to move forward, fill out the board, and complete the list of requirements called for by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges to return VVC to full accreditation. Had Mr. Range been an effective president of the board, we suspect this would already have been accomplished.