

Letter to the Editor

Dear Talon Marks,

In the Wednesday, October 24th issue of the Talon Marks, your News Editor, Lauren Gandara, published a small article on professors humiliating students in class. While I do agree that professors calling out and humiliating them in class is dumb, I think her reasons could have been stronger.

A professor calling out a student for failing a test or for their cellphone going off, while unprofessional and highly unnecessary, shouldn't have been the basis for her argument. I don't know if she wanted to list more reasons, but I believe that there are better examples to give when a professor calls out a

student. A prime example happens in math classes; sometimes, if a student asks a question, the instructor feels the need to make the student feel dumb by insulting them for not being able to do a certain homework problem. THAT is incredibly stupid of an instructor to do. It also makes a student feel dehumanized. A student goes to an instructor for help, to understand something, so they don't scratch their heads at said concept or continue to scratch their heads if they continue to encounter said concept in similar problems.

But some instructors, sadly, stoop to such a level. As a result, students end up not asking questions in class, which leads to the instructor believing they understand select

material, which leads to a student having difficulty on a problem and refusing to ask for help because they are afraid of being insulted, which means a student may not pass a class and/or not understand the full material on homework. I know a friend of mine who was taking Pre-Calculus; I won't mention the professor or the name of the student, but he said the instructor told him, "If you can't do this problem, I hate to see how you will fare with your Calculus 1 class." Is such a comment really necessary? No! Does it make the instructor seem unprofessional? Yes! Does it deem the instructor as a source of help? Not if they want to insult students.

I also wish Lauren Gandara

informed students of where they could report instructors for their disrespectful conduct. A student has a right to go to the Student Activities center. They can discuss any manners regarding an instructor with the ASCC on why an instructor is not doing their job teaching them.

This is a matter that effects student's willingness to communicate with their instructors, and something every student needs to do. As for the instructors; as Ms. Gandara pointed out, the classroom time is not your stand-up time. Either take your job seriously, or do not bother teaching.

-Matthew Ruiz
computer science major

Random Facts

- A person's nose and ears continue to grow throughout his or her life.
- Coconuts kill more people in the world than sharks do. Approximately 150 people are killed each year by coconuts.
- Did you know until the 1960's men with long hair were not allowed to enter Disneyland.
- Did you know Walt Disney, the creator of Mickey Mouse, was afraid of mice.
- If a lobster loses an eye, it will grow another one.
- Men's shirts have the buttons on the right, but women's shirts have the buttons on the left.
- One in 500 humans has one blue eye and one brown eye.
- The average person falls asleep in seven minutes.
- The human eye blinks an average of 4,200,000 times a year.

Facts from <http://www.did-you-know.com>



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Flamin' Hot Cheetos should not be banned from California school campus'

Why Flamin' Hot Cheetos is being singled out to be banned is a mystery, especially with the fact that now high school principals are allowed to confiscate the Flamin' Hot Cheetos from students if they are caught bringing the snack to school.

Several schools in Pasadena have banned Flamin' Hot Cheetos from their snack menu.

The main reason for banning the snack is that it is very high in fat and sodium.

Why just Flamin' Hot Cheetos? Why not ban the regular Cheetos too?

The comparisons are not even that different with the Flamin' Hot Cheetos 2 oz. bag having 170 calories, 11 grams of fat, and 250 milligrams of sodium, in comparison to the regular Cheetos that have 160 calories, 10 grams of fat, and 290 milligrams of sodium.

Why just stop with Cheetos? Why not all the other snacks and sodas?

Don't they have other things to look out for like students texting on their cell phones instead of eating Flamin' Hot Cheetos?

The Pasadena school district seems to be taking things a little bit too far when it comes to healthy eating.

Heaven forbid that restrictions like that come upon our school grounds.

Can you imagine if Cerritos College decided to ban selling Flamin' Hot Cheetos?

Would the banning stop at Flamin' Hot Cheetos? Or would the banning continue on to all the food places on campus like The Elbow Room where donuts and Hot Pockets are sold.

What if we had a life on campus where teachers and other college staff were allowed to examine what you are eating, and determine if you are allowed to continue eating it or not?

That type of control on campus definitely does not sound like a great college experience.

Healthy living is a choice, not something that you force students into doing.

Forcing foods to be taken away from you doesn't make you decide to not eat it anymore.

Students will eat what they want to eat, even if they have to sneak snacks in, so why force us?

It is our right to decide what goes inside of our bodies, not the school districts.

Starting at a community college is the better option



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Transferring to a four-year university from a community college will not only save students money, but it can provide a better chance of completing all the general courses for a degree before entering the even more competitive market students are facing at four year institutions.

The large price difference from a community college to a four-year university level shouldn't be the only incentive to take general education courses away from universities.

The recent budget cuts on education, especially in California, has caused a variety of

issues including making class sizes larger to cutting the amount of classes offered down completely.

Local four-year institutions, such as those in the California State University system, are now impacted.

To be impacted means that either a major or a campus has more qualified students than capacity can permit, meaning qualified students will start being turned away from admission and courses that they need to obtain a degree.

While these cuts have also been made at the community college level, the less expensive and larger community college system enables more students to participate in their required classes without too many obstacles to overcome.

Moving on to a community college after high school can also be the correct stepping

stone for those not mature enough to move away from home and enter the large university setting.

Community college arguably feels like high school with less rules and more students, and this may be what some people need to be comfortable moving forward with their education.

In regard to feeling that a transfer from a community college may cause those overlooking applications at four-year universities to turn their noses up and issue denials, times are changing.

When families had more money to spend and expressed no issues with their children completing general education courses at university tuition prices, community colleges may have received less respect when being seen on a transcript.

Now as these local colleges are both gain-

ing respect and more intelligent students who look to succeed and transfer to universities, students have the ability to be proud of the school they are transferring away from.

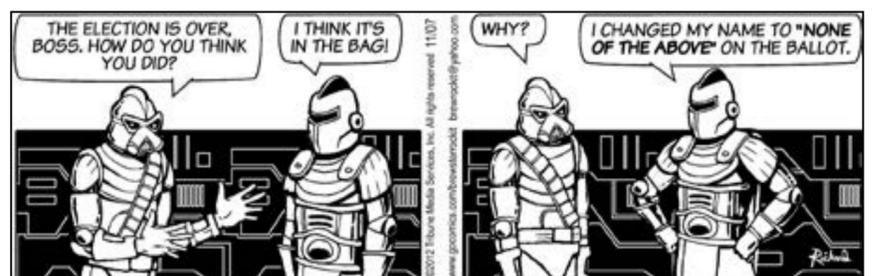
The pressures students face are drastically larger than those of a community college.

Larger drop out rates are present for freshman and sophomores at universities, as being both away from home and on your own in a large setting can be hard to handle as an 18 year old.

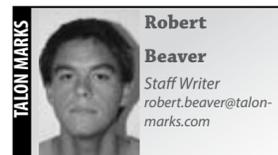
The more impacted, expensive and difficult courses at a four-year university are simply the worse choice for students who look to have a successful college career.

The reversal of options provided at community colleges may not only keep cash in your wallet, but also better prepare you for the difficulties you are forced to face once transferring to a university.

Comics & Crossword Puzzle



Online classes can be better for students



Robert Beaver
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Online education should be placed among man's greatest ideas like duct tape and the wheel.

Online classes mean no more sitting through long, boring lectures from wacko instructors.

You don't have to listen to that one student who always interrupts everything and starts talking about himself like everyone is in group therapy and no more neglecting the small, important things like nutrition, just to make it to class on time.

But the best part about taking online courses is that students get to go to class in their underwear.

That's the beauty of online classes. Students can literally roll out of bed naked, hair all lop-sided, and crawl over to the computer to have some education for breakfast.

There are fewer things like proper nutrition, deciding what to wear, and commuting to worry about.

Now, students can focus on education.

The online classroom provides a more comfortable and effective learning environment than the classroom. In other words, students have the ability to personalize their learning environment, which would mean more focused studying sessions for students.

A personalized learning environment is better than what the smelly classrooms offer on campus. Classrooms also offer a room

temperature that is always too hot or cold and never in between, and the instructors' teaching aids like the computer and projector don't always work.

Ever spent the first 20 minutes of class sitting there while the instructor trouble-shoots his equipment?

How can students focus under these classroom conditions?

The naysayer might argue that there are too many distractions at home and that it is harder for students to focus on the material, than in a classroom.

There's a simple solution for that. Turn off the television and stop texting your best friend.

The classroom has its distractions as well. How can you expect the hormone-enraged male students to focus in class when there are so many beautiful women sitting in their chairs, you know, being all distracting?

The naysayer might also add that students are more likely to fail their online courses. Can you read? Because that's all it really takes to be successful in the online environment.

The online environment forces students to open the books.

If students can't open a book and read it, then they probably don't belong in college in the first place.

In an online course, the material is all based on the textbook, as it is in the classroom, only that students can still pass a classroom course based on the professor's instruction and without actually reading the book. There is a saying: "Intelligent people can teach themselves."

What a great way to test that idea.

FOR RELEASE NOVEMBER 7, 2012

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

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By James Sajdak 11/7/12

Daily Crossword

Scan to view crossword answers

<http://bit.ly/U7jgFl>

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37 Ticked pink	51 Reservations
38 Scottish Celt	52 Best-seller
39 "As of yet, no"	55 Perfumery
40 Pressing need?	57 Blistex target
44 Inexact fig.	59 Frat house
45 Throws out	60 Flee
46 Reservation	61 The Rams of
47 Spiral pasta	the NCAA's
48 One of Dancer's	Atlantic 10
partners	Conf.
49 Far-from-efficient	62 D-Day vessel
vehicle	