

College Council, Ohlone College: Statement to the Board of Trustees
9.27.06

College Council is the leadership body of shared governance on campus. Student, staff, faculty, and administrative representatives meet together to ensure that all members of the college community have access to information regarding ongoing developments and issues. As Co-Chair of College Council, I have been directed to make the following 3 statements:

First, the Council strongly supports statements by the shared governance bodies praising the integrity, vision, and leadership of our President, Dr. Doug Treadway. He exemplifies our campus core values and inspires others to pursue excellence. The Council is outraged by the negative, blatantly inaccurate and hurtful statements in the local media that cast doubt on President Treadway's integrity, professional reputation, and by extension, on the Board and on all those associated with Ohlone College.

Second, the Council feels that inaction by the Board of Trustees to quickly correct misinformation is irresponsible. The current issue of *The Tri-City Voice* contains no letter of retraction from the Board although 2 weeks have now passed since the Board agreed to correct inaccurate statements regarding the status of Dr. Treadway's contract, and also to apologize for hurtful statements made by Trustee Bob Brunton, speaking as Board President.

Third, although the Council appreciates that Trustees have a right to express conflicting points of view and ask probing questions, the Board also has the responsibility of always keeping the best interests of the District in mind. After discussion ends and a vote is taken, the Board members should shed their individual opinions and speak with one voice.

Harry S. Truman, 33rd US President, stated, "Progress occurs when courageous, skillful leaders seize the opportunity to change things for the better." College Council respectfully asks the Board to act in a decisive manner this evening as a first step toward changing things for the better, building trust between our college and the Board elected to serve it.