Overwhelming student support for David Brailey, health educator, forced the administration to reverse his decision to reduce his job to a part-time position.

The administration announced two weeks ago that the position of health educator would be restructured from a full-time to a part-time position. It was then decided that new part-time counselors in the counseling services department would be hired.

The administration did not realize that the money saved from eliminating the salary Brailey received from teaching health education courses was not sufficient. In general, students were dissatisfied with this decision. Several concerned students drafted a form letter criticizing the process by which the administration arrived at its decision and demanding the retention of Brailey in his present full-time position. These letters were distributed at a table in front of the post office early last week, and were signed by approximately 850 students and faculty members.

The process which led to the decision to alter Brailey’s position was criticized by students. “The process broke down. Clare saw an opportunity to address a long-standing need of this student body, unfortunately it was an opportunity that had substantial negative ramifications. I don’t think those ramifications were clear to her when she approved this decision and I don’t think that even the individual letters that I and other students sent and the meetings she had with Colleen Shaler were sufficient to convince her of David’s importance to us. Unfortunately, we had to take this to the entire student body for it to be resolved in an acceptable manner,” said Jeffrey Berman, who commented on the college’s decision-making process.

George Chococharo, SAC chair ex-officio, expressed concern over the lack of student input. “When anything at a college that is important to students is cut without student input, it sends a strong signal that the college decision-making machinery is breaking down. The most troubling aspect of the whole situation is that major decisions about campus life are being made by people who do not live on this campus, and for that matter, show no regard for those who do.”

Ralph Hampton, dean of the college, spoke of the administration’s decision to retain Brailey. Said Hampton, “I respect you, we got more and more information and more feedback, we began to say, wait a minute now, have we asked these questions? We asked question such as, how important is it to have a health educator who teaches classes? How do you most effectively reach students? How important is it to do have peer education? How important is it [for the health educator] to be on the Alcohol Policy Committee? And also... the campus bartenders? You have to look at all that piece by piece and then look at them and say, what does the whole package look like? There were some questions that we couldn’t answer too well, and the stakes were too high to make a mistake. We decided that we couldn’t afford to make a mistake.”

Chair Guarini, president of the college, said, "One of the most important jobs of the president and the administration is to listen to the students, and I think that this [decision] is a sign of that effort to listen to and actually respond to student’s concerns. Through five forum sessions and I heard students and they made the case for the importance of Brailey’s position."
An amazing week for students

It was an absolutely amazing week for students at Connecticut College. Initial shock and anger with poor administrative decisions stimulated organized protest and the eventual reversal of these same decisions. The phenomenal leadership and determination of students was exciting to witness.

Yet, none of this needed to happen. The college has established channels of communication that have proven to be effective means for fact-finding. If the college had simply followed the procedural guidelines that it established, then Brayley’s position need not be tenous and the college would not be facing the potential public relations disaster that it is.

I will administer the give and take. The reversal of the Brayley decision and the invitation for Louis Sullivan to speak in the fall are laudable solutions to problems. Governor Brayley will continue to provide his invaluable services, and the forum with Sullivan on October 8th could be an outstanding workshop. However, administrative knee-jerk reactions to student protest are not the foundations upon which this college is built.

I have seen a slow erosion of the quality of student life at Connecticut College. The poor show of dormitories, top-notch professors jump overboard, and the fact that the deil in KB and dinner in Knowlton are things of the past are just a few examples.

I think the role of David Brayley in this community, the public was, however, far too giving. Student leaders collected more than 850 signatures from an irate community outraged by a unethical decision that held tremendous potential ramifications for students. The grass-roots movement amongst the seniors, and the class and responsibility they exhibited were remarkable examples of democracy in action.

We have a strong tradition of student involvement; that is why the initial administrative actions came as such a shock. Students should not have to fight for the involvement that is the sacred birthright of this institution. Administrators must recognize that students are not going to take this anymore; they are not going to tolerate being shut out. Next year’s SGA Executive Board must emphasize this point, so that future generations of Connecticut students do not have to fight the same battles all over.

Spicer calls Voice “unprofessional”

Letter to the Voice:
I am writing in response to the article, “At the Table,” by Meyers which appeared in the Voice in which my name was “misspelled.” While those involved had a genuine interest in what went uncorrected, I believe that it was a malicious and intentional attack. For a paper which claims to be run by professionals, the student who “misspelled” it can find it a bit sad that this type of reporting is explained as a simple paper error.

The response that I received from the publication was that it was an unintentional mistake which they rectified. It may have been an error, but I think it is part of an attitude that is not at all familiar with the production of a newspaper.” I am not really sure how this can be explained as unintentional. While I would understand, at this point even expect a misspelling or a misstep; I am not ready to let that go.

While an individual has had the opportunity to hear all the repercussions, the people responsible have the opportunity to take the shield of the College Voice and the First Amendment. The newspaper has said that it stands by its decision and that a public apology is not professional in the newspaper business. The First Amendment is supposed to be right up there in the constitution and a free press, which I respect, however this situation goes beyond the bounds of the only things I sought was an apology from the paper and from the person who was responsible for writing it. The paper, as I have been informed, subscribes to professional standards of publishing which do not conform to writing apologies. Instead, a correction is the appropriate way in which to handle a matter like this according to these professional standards.

I would like to thank April Ondis, the news editor, for apologizing although she was not responsible for the decision. I find this notion of the paper subscribing to professional standards rather silly considering the weekly habit of misspellings, misquotes, and half-truths. If the paper is indeed in the habit of upholding professional standards, maybe the paper should start to write and report like professionals.

Sincerely, 
Sara M. Spicer
Class of 1993

Stop those wimpy, ignorant reviews

I would like to speak for a moment about the reviews that appear in the college newspapers. I have often wondered about the task of writing reviews on a college campus would be difficult, as the people you would most often be writing about live across your hall or several of your classes.

This close proximity does not excise the kind of unnecessary and shoddy reporting that I have taken over the pages of fine SGA-funded publications. A growing number of reviews in the Voice suffer from three easily identifiable problems: like truly bad writing; making stuff up, inexcusable ignorance (of either the subject at hand, responsible journalism, or of the world at hand). These new flaws are in addition to common carelessness in reviewing problems, like loving absolutely everything (“Depeche Mode blasts into the majors with a new wave of rock”).

I could go into this for hours. Now it’s time to give some examples.

A&M Last Year when M.O.B.R.O.C had to hold it’s Annual Jam Saturday concert festival, extravaganza indoors on a Sunday, because of rain, the reviewers, Melissa McAllister, simply made stuff up almost in every paragraph. Many readers assumed that this was because she might not have been there, because if she had she wouldn’t have written that Wt’s Nurse’s Victoria Arthur “jammed on the Sar,” like she had on Wt’s Napire’s tape, but not at their show. She also wrote that The Grateful Testicles were a Grateful dead parody, and then she made up several for the nouns on their songs. On top of all of the Melissa wrote that Karla Warner’s vocal line has little to do with what the rest of the band is playing, you then love them; and if she understood the point of her position as a reviewer (“Buy it”) to make fun of Libido Grip, what’s the point of the review? In the end, it makes very clear that her musical taste has never really extended past top-40 Classic Rocker “mel-low, Clapton-like feel,” Santana, James Brown, Police, etc. The only intelligent thing the college could do was to allow that bands sounded different from each other, beyond that they clearly don’t sound different. The review of new music comes but off all rolly-your-eyes-and-look-at-your-boyfriend-who-don’t-like-them-either kind of cock. When you write an example review, you don’t crap up calling it a Hoffman “inflamous” for no apparent reason, as if you’re well informed in the big big; that’s ridiculous. The problem is not what bands should be liked or disliked; of course, she went the whole route at Conrad. The problem was that the college thought she could trash on stuff she really knows nothing about, like musicality or polishe. She could put anything in context.

If you can look back and read any of those reviews, they compare to each other without rhyme or reason which doesn’t make them more believable because they are more believable. The Mozora’s reviews for Porno and Let’s Knife. These were relatively well-written and had the sense of context; if it’s a punk band judge it according to punk bands.

I think I’ve said my piece. Thank you for your time.

And I thought that Adam Green’s review was great. Way to Go Adam

Chuck Jones
Class of 1993

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The College Voice is a non-profit student-produced newspaper. Editorial office is located in the College Center 2nd floor. Phone: 434-1787. Fax: 434-1795. 18 Messer Avenue. New London, CT 06320

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Spitzer.nasa

Meyers review of the M.O.R.O.C. CD, Neapolitan, could have been okay, if her know-it-all, flip, and condescending attitude hadn’t gotten in the way (“Depeche Mode did a fine job on ‘Never Stop to Believe’ and ‘Summertime’ were the highlight of his set”). However, I found this notion of the paper subscribing to professional standards rather silly considering the weekly habit of misspellings, misquotes, and half-truths.

If the paper is indeed in the habit of upholding professional standards, maybe the paper should start to write and report like professionals.

Sincerely, 
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Class of 1993

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It should be the students, stupid

Chris Cory, director of college relations and a man who has been extraordinarily busy recently, has a sign hanging on his office wall that reads, "It's the students, stupid." This past week has done a lot to both confirm and contradict that conspicuously placed adage.

I think we all know that the decisions regarding Dr. Sullivan's commencement invitation and David Brailey's employment situation were inadequately considered. We speak a lot about process here and last week we saw what can happen when process is not followed.

The point of including members of any group in decisions affecting their lives is not just to listen to them have their say, nor to just give them the experience of being included in making tough calls, but to provide adequate information so smart choices can be made and to assure quality communication, communication which tends to avert the kind of protests we saw last week.

That such decisions could have been made without adequate student input is indicative of the problem which I have harped on all year: priorities are misaligned.

If Chris Cory's sign really meant what it said, we would never have had to create the unfortunate scene at the table in front of the post office the last week of classes, and if the administration was aware of the situation of students and if this is the case where the administration does not have a speaker which represents the students and if this is the case that they were opposed to his administration is big enough to admit mistakes and correct them—moves not every college president would have the courage to make.

I hope the lessons of last week are put to good use in the future. I hope the students have learned to keep one eye looking over their shoulders without losing too much faith in their college and I hope the administration will be more willing in the future to listen before accusing its students of unwarranted insolence.

I would rather see the college center as a place where members of the community gather to share ideas and celebrate their accomplishments than as the place where we manifest our dissatisfaction with executive orders. If it's the students, stupid, "becomes" the focal point of our collective efforts, Connecticut College may actually reach the goal of being a better place to spend four years. If not, at least we have the table outside the post office.

Jeffrey Berman
Class of 1993

The majority wins yet again

The senior speaker saga continues

Four years ago when I decided to attend Conn, I was not exactly sure where I stood politically. I thought that Chris, being a liberal arts institution, would provide a forum for the open exchange of ideas; a place where civilized discussion of issues could happen. How wrong I was.

Over the years I have come to realize that not only is Conn a liberal arts institution, it is an institution of liberal political thought. The controversy over this year's graduation speaker is the most recent example.

There is no question that the process by which the speaker was chosen was circumvented. However, for members of the class to use the basis for not having Dr. Louis Sullivan as the speaker is ridiculous. It was pointed out at the beginning of last year that if the current Secretary of Health and Human Services were chosen, there would be no controversy. The controversy here is how the administration rounded his political beliefs and actions.

I find it sad that an institution which claims to be liberal and open to the free exchange of ideas, refuses to allow a person with conflicting beliefs to speak. I believe that it was our, the class of 1993's, graduation, and we should have a speaker which represents our views. I believe that when members of the class began to use words like "we" and "our" in reference to choosing a speaker, we have not only crossed a line that our administration is big enough to admit mistakes and correct them, but also that we were learning new lessons. It was more opportunity (and, with specific regard to David Brailey, arguably the most important) to put the skills developed over four years of hard work to use in righting a wrong. It was a chance to see what can happen when fall out of line and a chance for a class to represent itself. It also was a chance to see the free exchange of ideas, re-creating the potential of what we have been offered.

It is sad that others were against him by delivering words that they would have been opposed to his administration is big enough to admit mistakes and correct them—moves not every college president would have the courage to make.

I hope the lessons of last week are put to good use in the future. I hope the students have learned to keep one eye looking over their shoulders without losing too much faith in their college and I hope the administration will be more willing in the future to listen before accusing its students of unwarranted insolence.

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Jeffrey Berman
Class of 1993

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**NEWS**

**Miller brings Division I success to Conn College**

by Aly McKnight
Managing Editor

The Connecticut College basketball program can look forward to new leadership and an optimistic future, as the college welcomes not only a new interim men's head coach, Glen Miller, but also a new coach for the women's team, Kathleen Gaillor.

The search for an interim head coach of the men's team began in April with the resignation of Martin Schoepfer, former head coach, who accepted the position of sports information director.

Robert Malekoff, athletic director, plans to conduct a more thorough, nation-wide search for a permanent head coach next year. Malekoff was unavailable for comment.

Among the more impressive de- tails of Miller's resume is his seven-year tenure as the assistant basketball coach at the University of Connecticut.

According to an official state- ment from the college, during his time at UConn, "Miller helped build the program into a perennial Top Twenty contender and was re- sponsible for coaching the team's shooting and implementing an offensive system, conducting practice sessions, scouting, recruiting and advising student-athletes on off-court issues."

Miller comes to Conn with high recommendations from Jim Calhoun, head basketball coach at the University of Connecticut. Calhoun told the The Day, "Glen was an important part of our success. ... I was excited to have him help us out in the Athletic Center."

Gaillor brings to the women a variety of basketball experience; she is a 1986 graduate of Fitch High School, where she was the all-time scoring leader, and was a star player during her undergraduate years at Dartmouth College.

"I am excited to take over a pro- gram that has a history of success and one that balances academics and athletics," said Gaillor.

**Upset students rally in support of David Brailey**

Continued from 1st

and there were other kinds of topics that came up that suggested that this decision of moving teaching to the evening session and securing David Brailey a strong second unit could only be accomplished by a high or higher salary level was the best possible outcome we could try for this year."

Guadiani continued, "Once that process was set in place and students reacted strongly, there was more listening and the voices said different things. A second effort was made to respond to what we heard and I think the new plan will give us an excellent chance to ad- dress the needs of the students at this college. That is one of my most important objectives as president. I am proud of the quality of discussion and the kind of discourse that students have engaged in, with me and with the dean. I was very im- pressed... it makes me very proud of the quality of mind and the qual- ity of heart in the student body.

Louise Brown, dean of freshmen, said that the decision to change the schedule surrounding the issue of reducing Brailey’s position, "I think both are needed at this time. The college needs more counselors in counseling serv- ices. Hopefully we can get them not at the expense of other needed serv- ices or positions."

Jill Van Ness, director of health education at MIT commented on the essence of health educators in college communities. "I think col- leges health educators are truly indis- pensable partly because of the health challenges and life-style chal- lenges are often preventable and it is the health educator who has the global health view of this stage."

Van Ness continued with a warn- ing when she said, "I think all the input available are important. You want to get as much information as possible to make a decision, I thought [the students] were reasonable, [but] there are times in which even if a thousand people don't support an idea, we'll still have to go ahead with it."

David Brailey, health educator, said that there has been a groundswell of support among students on his be- half. Said Brailey, "The last month has been an emotional roller- coaster, from not feeling as if the college needed me, to the over- whelming support I have felt from students, staff and faculty. I am truly touched by the support and love I have felt from the commu- nity, and it will be something I will remember for the rest of my life. I don't know if I'll ever be able to adequately thank everyone. I do know though, that I feel a renewed commitment to Connecticut Col- lege and the community I serve."