

Student's opinion gets in *Caller-Times*

by ED GLAZE

On January 15, the city of Corpus Christi got the chance to read the opinion of CCSU student, David Grover. The Soap Box article (shown at right) is reprinted, courtesy of the *Caller-Times*.

There should be little doubt that news of Mr. Grover's article was widespread through the faculty and administration. Written responses to the opinion piece were solicited by the *CCSU Island Waves* from the University's deans. As of the submission deadline there were no responses received.

The *Caller-Times* printed a letter to the editor from another CCSU student, Katherine M. Smith. Her response to Mr. Grover was titled "Unfair attack" and is shown below. Thanks again to the *Corpus Christi Caller-Times* for its coverage of news about CCSU.

Another student of CCSU, Corra Ward, submitted her response and the teaching guidelines on the next page to the *CCSU Island Waves*.

The boxed in item below called "The Student is . . ." was given to the paper by a student who felt it would be of interest. It supposedly came from a bulletin board in the office of a CCSU professor. It makes a lot of sense. University students are adults who chose to advance their education and it is the student's job to learn and the professor's job to teach.

Unfair attack

CCSU needs more than modern facilities

By David D. Grover

I would like to respond to the Public Forum by Corpus Christi State University President Dr. Robert R. Furgason. He wrote, "CCSU's new classroom/laboratory facility will be one of the most advanced *teaching* facilities in the nation." (Italics mine). Well, I hope he's right, because it's far from it now.

As a student and business owner, I work and go to school full time. Why? Probably for the same reason as most students: to gain the knowledge and tools necessary for a higher standard of living. I have found, however, the following major weakness:

Professors are not required to have *teaching* certificates, nor are they required to learn advanced methods of instruction. Shouldn't an institution of higher education also be an institution of higher instruction and teaching? Shouldn't a teacher be taught to teach? The most common form of instruction is the prehistoric lecturing method.

Back in 1766, Samuel Johnson noted that "lectures were once useful, but



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now when all can read and books are so numerous, lectures are unnecessary." Fred S. Keller, who developed the PSI or personalized system of instruction, said instructors need to be more than mere "dispensers of information" but rather "educational engineers." Studies have proven without exception that learning under the

PSI method is far superior to the lecture format.

I do hope CCSU's teaching faculty advances beyond the lecturing format and does indeed employ "educational engineers." I agree with Samuel Johnson. I believe most students are capable of reading a book. We do not need professors to merely read them to us.

The hiring of college graduates is at an all-time low. It's low because employers want employees with ability. Graduates acquire a diploma, but do they acquire ability? What good is knowledge if you do not have the ability to use it? It's essential that the hierarchy of education be able to teach how to use what is taught.

I hope Dr. Furgason is sincere in his quest for making CCSU "one of the most advanced teaching facilities in the nation." We need an institution that gives its students the ability to pursue a higher standard of living. We need an institution that will truly be our Alma Mater (nurturing mother).

(David D. Grover is a CCSU student working on a communications degree.)

Let it be clear that this Soap Box article was not meant to defame CCSU or its faculty. What was written is applicable to most university systems. Its purpose is to awaken the professors whose quality of instruction is not evolving. If we are to rise to the challenges of tomorrow then evolution in instruction is essential.

— David D. Grover

Not all CCSU teachers are ineffective

This is in response to the

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