

Regents

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community college, first, or, perhaps, not go to college at all.
"It gets complicated because when you raise a GPA you exclude students," Rogers said. "Should we exclude these students? Where do we send them? Is it a disproportional share of minorities? It's a very complicated issue," he said.

"Minority students have special circumstances in their lives," Harter said, adding that the GPA raise would affect enrollment for students of color by only 1 percent.

Harter and Lilley prepared a PowerPoint presentation displaying charts they used to show students of color would not be excluded.

But many students and faculty were dissatisfied by the charts.

"I think they're a shame," said Tom Rodriguez, Executive Manager for Diversity at the Clark County School District. He said administrators had the same argument in 1988 when they wanted to raise the GPA requirement, but decided to wait.

"I can not be convinced that these numbers are accurate. There are too many discrepancies," Regent Linda Howard said. Howard said the statistics given before the meeting were based on the overall GPA, but it needs to be based just on core classes since high school students will be required to have a 3.0 in core classes alone.

Therefore this excludes elective classes such as drama, journalism, ceramics or physical education classes.

Harter and Lilley said there were many alternatives for the high school students who won't be able to get into UNLV or UNR.

An admission requirement alternative for high school students is getting a score of at least 1040 on the SAT or a minimum of 22 on the ACT. If a student doesn't meet any of those requirements their alternative schools are any state community college or Nevada State College.

But many said these alternatives were not enough.

Rodriguez said Nevada State College is a poor alternative because of its limited programs.

He also said that sending high school students, especially students of color, to community college will have a negative outcome since only about 5 percent of those

students transfer to a four-year university.

"UNLV is taxpayer funded; minority people pay taxes," Rodriguez said.

Nevada State Senator Joe Neal also spoke at the meeting during public comment.

"This is an attack on public schools," Neal said.

He said raising the GPA requirement would be like moving in the historical direction when only kings, nobles and people who

owned property could afford to go to school. "Think about what you are doing," Neal said.

Despite the protests, Rogers stayed firm in his opinions. "We will never be a real university system in this country if we don't start to set some standards," he said. "Good school systems in this country decided that waiting doesn't get it."

Maria Casas, a UNLV history professor, disagreed

with Rogers. Casas, who has studied at both Yale University and Cornell University, said the difference between those schools and UNLV is that those schools have services and strategies that help raise the level of the students.

Casas said rushing to raise the GPA was not the correct strategy.

"It's a fantasy to think we're going to turn the students into Harvard and Yale in two years," Rowland said.

Mumia

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Francisco. "It includes the prosecutor's argument that if convicted, Mumia would have 'appeal after appeal.' That comment effectively lessened the burden of the jurors, and turned the concept of reasonable doubt and presumption of innocence on its head."

Moreover, there is the bias and "incredible racism" of the late Judge Albert Sabo, who presided in Mumia's first trial. "Unfortunately, it is limited to his conduct at the 1995 evidentiary hearing, rather than his monstrous behavior at trial," Bryan asserted.

"This restriction is because all of the prior attorneys mistakenly did not attack Sabo's misconduct at trial, an unfortunate oversight and mistake."

Herb Boyd writes for the Amsterdam News.

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