**Code Crisis 2018 Timeline**

Written by Riley Wheaton '18 (Honor Council Librarian)

- **Sunday, February 18**
  Spring Plenary is held

- **Thursday, February 22**
  Ratification is opened

- **Wednesday, February 28**
  It’s announced that the Honor Code failed to be ratified
  - Only 49.36% voted “yes” or “yes, with objections.” 66.7% would have had to vote in favor for the code to be ratified. **We weren’t close.**
  - Additionally, fewer than 66.7% of the student body voted on the ratification at all, so the election was invalid and we had to collect signatures in order to convene a Special Plenary
  - The “Old Code” which failed at spring plenary will cease to be in effect 6 business weeks from this date. The student body has until then to hold a Special Plenary to pass a revised Code, any changes to which must be approved by the President.

- **Wednesday, February 28**
  Sufficient signatures are gathered in less than 3 hours to convene a Special Plenary

- **Tuesday, March 6**
  Special Plenary Committee (SPC) is convened to “to help craft resolutions and create spaces for discussion in the lead up to Special Plenary”

- **Friday, March 9** – **Monday, March 19**
  Spring Break

- **Thursday, March 22**
  SPC speaks to a faculty meeting

- **Thursday, March 22**
  SPC sends out first draft resolution to student body

- **Sunday, March 25**
  Draft resolutions are sent to SC Co-Presidents and resolution writers can begin collecting signatures!

- **Sunday, April 1**
  Resolutions must be finalized and sent to SC Co-Presidents
  SPC spends the next week trying to hype up the campus and get everyone to come to Special Plenary

- **Saturday, April 7**
  SPC accepts emergency meeting with President Kim Benston to discuss concerns he has about resolutions. SPC agrees to bring amendments to their resolutions in order to address President Benston’s concerns

- **Sunday, April 8**
  **SPECIAL PLENARY**
  - 75% of the student body had to be at Special Plenary. We were worried it would take awhile. We got 1000 out of 1258 students in the first 45 minutes. It was breathtaking.
  - 8 resolutions were discussed and the student body voted in the moment on whether or not to ratify the new Honor Code we’d just finished revising. The resolutions were as follows.
  - 1. Plenary Scheduling: put in place barriers to stop plenary from being scheduled on religious holidays
  - 2. Confrontation: opened up online confrontations and broadened third party confrontations in an effort to make confrontation more accessible and feasible
  - 3. Social Code: modernized the language and changed the language surrounding political ideology to make it less usable as a shield for disrespect and Code violations
- **Wednesday, April 11th**

At a meeting with SC Co-Presidents and SPC President Benston expresses his and the faculty’s grave concerns over the changes to the academic code passed at Special Plenary. He and SPC discuss how to move forward in the event that the New Code is not approved.

- **Wednesday, April 18th**

The “Old Code” ceases to be in effect because 6 business weeks (doesn’t include spring break) have elapsed. President Benston has not yet officially approved or rejected the “New Code” passed at Special Plenary. So began the period some students referred to as “The Purge.”

- **Wednesday, April 18th**

President Benston puts in place some “interim regulations” designed to stand in for the Honor Code until he decides to approve or reject the New Code. Disciplinary
matters will now be handled by tribunals of 1 dean, 1 faculty member, and 1 student from the Educational Policy Committee (there were two such students appointed by faculty and serving terms that lasted until they graduated)

- Thursday, April 19th
  In response to serious pushback from the student body in the form of a “statement of rejection” of the interim regulations, President Benston agrees to replace the interim regulations with the Old Code (a demand of the statement of rejection) if the student body wants. All restorative/disciplinary matters would once again be handled by Honor Council

- Thursday, April 19th
  SPC solicits feedback on the academic code from faculty, signaling a shift into a turbulent period of revision of the Code

- Sunday, April 22th
  The student body votes in favor of living by the Old Code and President Benston reinstates it as the “interim structure”

- Tuesday, April 24th
  SPC meets with faculty and admin to make changes to the academic and social codes

- Wednesday, April 25th
  SPC holds a “community town hall” to address confusion and let all opinions be heard on the turbulent situation. Some students advocate a boycott because the process isn’t allowing voices to be truly heard. Some faculty express feeling unheard throughout the process.

- Friday, April 27th
  Voting opens on the petition to vote on the New New Code (the one that contains faculty/admin changes) electronically. Basically, 40% of the students have to say “yes we’d like an opportunity to vote on this New New Code”

- Saturday, April 28th
  SPC sends the student body a “straw poll” to solicit any last suggestions for changes to the Code. Any of those suggestions that are acceptable to President Benston are put to the student body for an electronic vote.

- Monday, April 30th
- Tuesday, April 31st
- Thursday, May 3rd
  The final New New Code is sent to the student body
  Voting on the New New Code opens electronically
  Voting on the New New Code closes. Final vote is 1056 voting “yes” or “yes, with objections” and 24 voting “no.”

- Friday, May 4th
  President Benston approves the New New Code and all other plenary resolutions passed by Special Plenary