

Letters— Combine abilities

I have studied under top-rank researchers who were fine teachers, and under others who reacted to undergraduates as they would to kindergartners, with panic and ineptitude. Some of the most stimulating of my teachers were mediocre in their own fields. Unfortunately, a list of published articles is an objective fact, while teaching has to be judged subjectively, which is difficult.

The requirement to publish puts librarians into a double bind. A biologist may be hired to do "20 hours of teaching one class and the rest of the week for research," like one professor I talked to, but a librarian's first job is to keep the library open. Some spend 50 or more hours a week doing just that.

Getting one's field of research recognized may be a bigger problem than finding time for it. Librarians, unless they specialize in administration, are generalists: the more subjects they study the better work they do. This seems to puzzle evaluation committees. Maybe an analogy would help.

Suppose you are about to submit a manuscript to one of two publishing houses. The first publisher has a staff of publishing specialists: one has written a text on typesetting by computer, one has a degree in advertising, one is a copyright expert. The second publisher has a staff of generalists: one writes a general science column for a popular magazine, one is active in several historical societies, one is a linguist and translator. Which publisher will you send your book to?

If you say, to neither, but to a firm combining both sets of abilities, you are of course right. And that is the sort of book-handling capability we hope we offer you in the library. We also hope you understand when the anthropologists or musicians or lawyers among us do their research, or creative work, in other fields than library administration.

Robin Lodewick
Assistant Professor—
Library

Say thank you

Too often we fail to realize our debt to certain people, people who have sacrificed their own comfort in providing us with the luxuries in life. The ones I speak of are the forest missionaries.

For years they have traveled into the darkest jungles, bringing the light to the millions of heathen trees, clearing out the filth, crud, incest, nakedness, and genetic sins which have raged like cancerous storms through the bowels of the land. These servants of the woods have developed a spiritual oneness among their folds. Advances in medicine have brought about the elimination of many parasitic growths that plague the forests. Mean, ugly beasts no longer terrorize the land with their bloodthirsty fangs. Cute little field mice need not fear being pounced upon from above by devil birds.

Yes, they have done marvelous deeds for sure. Without people like these, where would we be? Say you are proud of their work, say thank you!

John Boorum
Sophomore-Biology

Kept in suspense

What does it feel like to graduate from college, and not know when you will be awarded your diploma?

Page 4

That's what happened to some of us that were (un)fortunate to have graduated from the University last winter.

Our diplomas were supposed to be ready on May 26, but somehow that was not to be, especially for those of us that got our degrees in the Arts and Sciences. The reason is that the printers made mistakes in printing the diplomas. We were told that instead of writing Arts and Sciences, they printed Art and Science.

Up till now, we don't know when the diplomas will be ready. Well, figure this out yourself. After four years in an Oregon University, we are being kept in suspense by Californian printers — that's where the diplomas are printed.

So much for graduation filing deadline, so that diplomas could come out on time.

Yinka Alakija
Senior—
Communications

Biased reporting

The front-page article on the faculty vote on ROTC written by Sean Meyers in the June 2 issue of the ODE is such a blatant example of biased reporting that I feel some response is called for. One doesn't need a course in journalism to know that editorial comment belongs on the editorial page, not in a front-page news article.

The writer comes close to libeling Pres. Boyd when he refers to the President as "sporting the svelte tongue that aided in precociously establishing his lofty position..." The writer is hardly kinder to any of the faculty members in a position of authority at the University who spoke out in favor of ROTC when he writes: "With the calculating execution so often associated with the military, several University governors staged a successful upheaval..." And does the writer really think that the "governors" could have that much influence over the "anticipated plethora of faculty" (300 members) present at the meeting?

Apparently, the writer would not only restrict the freedom of choice of those students who wish to take ROTC, but also restrict the freedom of speech of any faculty member in a position of authority at the University. Why is it that those who have the reputation of being the most liberal when it comes to freedom, so often are the first ones to deny the basic freedoms to those who disagree with them?

Glen Frerichs
Graduate-Chemistry



Words from Wass

An ODE to the year

...to Embel, Ken Warren and the tall firs of Glenwood...

My year at the top has come and gone. It all ends today, offering a prime excuse to reflect, retract and rethink. As with any reflections, mine are likely to be personal at times, but after all, I can only really be sure of things I've thought or experienced.

My initial comments have to be aimed at the viciousness and lack of compassion with which some letter writers attack the Emerald. It might just be a fact of living with a newspaper, but it often seemed that the indignant and self-righteous tone of many letters we received was unwarranted and off-the-mark.

It's one thing to argue with an editorial or news decision we've made, but quite another to accuse us of "yellow journalism" (about the tritest and most unimaginative charge one could level at a newspaper) because a reporter interpreted an event differently than the letter writer. Or to paint an honest mistake as another example of the Emerald's biased approach to the world.

Tom Wolfe, next year's managing editor, explains it away as the reaction of people frustrated with their academic experience who have finally found someone to lash out at — not a comforting situation for those on this end of the transaction.

This isn't to say we don't deserve to be talked at once in a while. Like anybody, we make mistakes (and for this year's worst, I again apologize to Dave Tyler) but there has been no intentional slanting of news or a conspiracy to shut out this segment of campus or that. What there has been is an effort by a number of students to provide the information and entertainment Emerald readers want and need. It's an effort that's been, for the most part, successful.

But back to the letters. Next time you wind up to take a shot at us, how 'bout giving a call first to see if it's something that can be explained or worked out. But most of all, remember that the Emerald is people, for the most part undeserving of demeaning attacks.

But enough of that. What about the role the Emerald specifically, and student journalists in general, should play in the world?

A common mistake among many student journalists is to fail to view themselves as legitimate members of the news network. This leads to a stepping-stone syndrome where a college career is viewed as a training ground where one merely practices before moving into the real world. It's an attitude that ignores the very influence students, like those at the Emerald, can have on the environment they live in and the trade they have chosen.

As ASUO-type Mark Cogan is fond of arguing, students have a unique perspective on the world. Yet to become strongly identified with a special interest, unencumbered by the responsibilities of an occupation and viewing themselves in a state of transition, most students can approach life in a way few other members of society can. This is especially true at the Emerald.

Given our captive ad clientele (a frightening number of students depend solely on the Emerald for their contact with the outside world) and a captive audience (what better way to pass that hour 'til the lecture's over) we have little to censure us. It's a freedom few of us will ever experience in our professional lives. But utilizing this freedom offers failures as well as fulfillment. It's a given that some experiments are going to fail, and when they fail in the mass media, thousands of people know about it. It's embarrassing to pick up the paper and think "God, I wish we hadn't done that," but it's my theory that these feelings pale when compared with the satisfaction one feels when a new idea works. And that's what the Emerald has tried to be — a place where new ideas could have their chance.

Which is all a little heavy, so I'll end this with a pitch. If you've got an interest in controlling thousands of minds, even if it's for just a moment, think about giving the Emerald a try. It's amazingly easy to work into the act and diverse viewpoints on the staff means a more interesting paper. It's an experience you can mold to fit your needs and Wally, Tom, Martha and the others could use your help.

And that's about it. Just remember that finals week will soon be over, and watch the Emerald stands tomorrow for a treat you're sure to enjoy.

Faculty cops out

Thursday's Emerald headline should have read, "Faculty cops out on ROTC vote." Listening to the faculty debate Wednesday afternoon my friends and I sitting in were expecting to hear utterances about McCarthyism. We wondered how many of those 190 faculty who voted to support ROTC believed ex-president Nixon was innocent up until the final days.

President Boyd's speech was the ultimate in bureaucratic B.S.

Babbling about how the University had let down the public during the late 60's, he went on to say that this move would just be waving a flag in front of the public's face. Our head bureaucrat succeeded in stifling what had the potential of becoming a new progressive movement, which of course is the job of all good bureaucrats.

Professor emeritus Bower Aly, whose speech was one-half inaudible from where we sat, fired out such reactionary statements as, if we expect to remain the world's richest country we must maintain

a powerful defense. In light of recent world events Professor Aly seems to be unaware that capitalism is slowly dying and that our defensive stature, protecting our great wealth from the masses of the world's population, is doomed to fall beneath the rising tide of world socialism. Either that or the capitalists, in whose interest the military is maintained, will destroy the world in order to protect their interests.

Bruce Amsbary
Junior-Psychology/Sociology

I SPARE
NO EFFORT
IN
APPEARING
MASCULINE.



I SPARE
NO EXPENSE
IN LOOKING
WELL
GROOMED.



I'VE TOILED
CEASELESSLY
TO CONSTRUCT
AN ENGAGING
PERSONALITY.



I COVER UP
MY TRUE
THOUGHTS
SO THAT I
OFFEND
NO ONE.



YET PEOPLE
TREAT ME
AS IF I'M
FROM MARS.



HOW
DO
THEY
KNOW?



Monday, June 6, 1977