

Last chance; write your own editorial

Two years ago, the *Emerald* made a bold move to abolish student apathy on campus. It allowed students to fire themselves up and write their own editorial — on any subject they wanted.

The opinion could be poorly constructed and pointless. Judging from the average letter-to-the-editor author, it would be. One could even follow the time-honored newspaper tradition of minutes-before-deadline opinion-spitting panic that occurs when you've written countless editorials on the same damn topic — a topic no one on campus seems to care about.

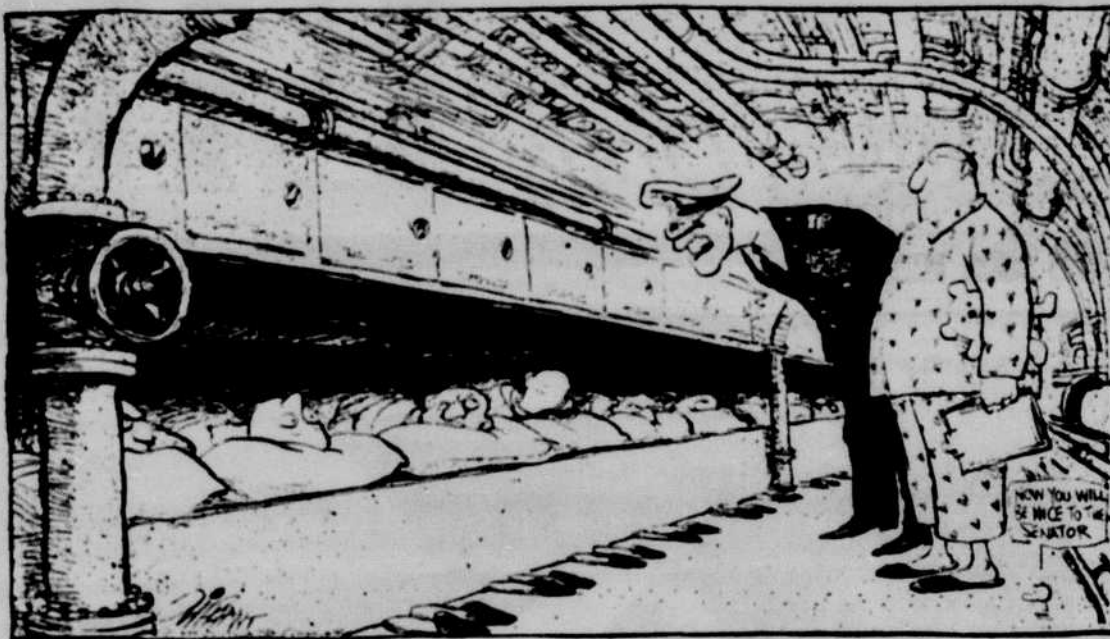
However, one look around campus will tell you that aside from the hardcore EMU crowd, apathy remains. It's everywhere; in the shower, lurking behind doorways, even sitting on your lunch tray. Our ploy didn't work.

So we'll try again. No more apathy. Watch it evaporate as you angrily deride whatever campus organization you want (the *Emerald* excluded; we're above criticism). Apathy begone. Dammit.

Suggested topics:

- The IFC (There's always something fun to say about the IFC.)
- Multiculturalism (But don't criticize anybody involved with it; everyone will hate you and label your opinions knee-jerk and racist.)
- Folk music on campus (Who needs it?)
- The virtues of soap (Folkies could use it.)

Headline goes here



NOW HEAR THIS. THE SENATOR IS HERE TO STUDY FIRST-HAND THE CLOSE-QUARTER SLEEPING ARRANGEMENTS ABOARD SUBMARINES. YOU WILL ASSIST THE SENATOR. NOW MOVE OVER.

LETTERS

Thanks

The International Students Association would like to express its greatest appreciation to one and all who have put in time and effort in making our 30th International Festival another feather added to our cap.

From the opening with Filipino Night, through the Continent Days and World Forum Day and culminating with International Night, we must admit that it would not have been as successful as it was without your participation. More importantly, we would like to thank those of you who have come back year after year to give us support in one way or another.

As for anyone who was unable to buy tickets, or to whom any inconvenience was caused, please accept our sincerest apology. Once again, thank you for your enthusiasm and hard work.

Chia Wei Shing
Co-director
International Students Association

Rape education

I understand many of the frustrations surrounding the alleged rape by a Phi Kappa Psi fraternity pledge. I don't believe there can ever be enough done to revoke the violations that their pledge member committed, nor am I satisfied with the level of regret many of the fraternity members voiced. However, I do not believe the recent allegations and possible lawsuit against the fraternity are warranted or constructive.

I have confirmed with the Student Conduct Coordinator that the fraternity has kept its good faith promises as outlined in its contract. I can attest members did 34 of their 100 service hours for me by writing letters to their senators in support of the Violence Against Women Act, speaking to other fraternities about this legislation and distributing several hundred rape education posters.

Their work has obviously not solved the problem — they were not always respectful to those conducting the seminars — but they were faithful to their contract, and we must recognize that.

I'd also like to add that the

then acting-president, Kevin Goveo, offered us volunteers, regardless of their obligations to the contract. I hope Josh Schweitz will reconsider his wish to "let this whole thing die" and recognize, as his predecessor did, that they did not exorcise rape from their house because they put in a couple hundred hours to save face.

The question isn't "How can we end this?" but rather "How can we prevent it from ever happening again?"

Caitlin Twain
ASUO Safety Affairs Coordinator

Hypocrisy

From the "most-interesting-conversation-since-I-began-attending-the-University" department:

A young man in a T-shirt emblazoned with the words "Celebrate Diversity" shouting, "I wish I had a gun!" to a man giving a pro-Christianity sermon in the EMU Courtyard.

Kim Challis-Roth
Pre-journalism

Guilty verdict

The staff of *The Student Insurgent* said their May 11 back-page display pillorying five University faculty members is not an accusation but merely a question.

I say that's not true and is particularly naive and foolish. These faculty members' cogently expressed intellectual and moral disagreements with the revisions proposed for the multicultural curriculum requirement are not racism, and no amount of name-calling in disingenuous guise will make it so.

The Insurgent has shown with perfect clarity that it is staffed by individuals who are possessed of almost total ignorance who find solace and salvation in

simple solutions, no matter how wrongheaded or ineffective those solutions might be. Even for an alternative publication that prides itself on controversy, this exercise in hate-mongering and intellectual censorship is contemptible and embarrassing.

Michael E. Stamm
Graduate Secretary
English Department

Be consistent

No one should like being called a racist, or be implied as being one. The recent edition of *The Student Insurgent* should not have listed the names of faculty while rhetorically questioning their attitudes simply because they have been outspoken with their concerns about multiculturalism and/or the process for the course requirement. Provost Norm Wessel's response to the *Insurgent's* irresponsibility (*ODE*, May 14) was immediate and appropriate; I just wish his indignation wasn't so selective.

Proponents of multiculturalism have long been aligned with Adolf Hitler, political correctness, faculty intimidation and anti-Semitism (see almost any copy of the *Oregon Commentator*, among numerous other diatribes circulating the campus). Yet I have yet to read or hear anything in comparative response from the Provost. By remaining relatively silent, he has allowed these unfair accusations to hang on many of us for so long that they have taken on a life of their own.

The current campus battle over multiculturalism is not simply academic politics when top administrators sit on the sidelines and select what values to enforce. It is wrong to put labels on people; it is even worse not to speak out about it.

Clarence Spigner
Assistant Professor
Ethnic Studies

LETTERS POLICY

The *Oregon Daily Emerald* will attempt to print all letters containing comments on topics of interest to the University community.

Letters to the editor must be limited to no more than 250 words, legible, signed and the identification of the writer must be verified when the letter is submitted.

The *Emerald* reserves the right to edit any letter for length or style

Oregon Daily Emerald

P.O. BOX 1135 • EUGENE, OREGON 97401

The Oregon Daily Emerald is published daily Monday through Friday during the school year and Tuesday and Thursday during the summer by the Oregon Daily Emerald Publishing Co. Inc., at the University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon.

The Emerald operates independently of the University with offices at Suite 300 of the Erb Memorial Union and is a member of the Associated Press.

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