

Footnotes not bullies

I would like to take a minute to shed a little light on the other side of the Footnotes/EMU debate. For one thing, Footnotes' staff is not a gang of bullies out to mar EMU board members. We are working students who believe in the mission of our employer.

We work here because we believe in what we do. We believe that we aid in making the college experience a better one for students who utilize our services. Our goal is to aid students, not torment the EMU board.

Footnotes is not staffed by a group of crazed stalkers. When the EMU board threatened to terminate Footnotes' lease, Student Projects Incorporated (SPI) and the Footnotes staff set out on an information campaign. We warned our customers of the EMU House Committee's recommendation to the board that the EMU end the lease with Footnotes.

Since this decision will directly impact their elected officials, we felt it was important that they be advised of what their elected officials were recommending. We suggest that supporters sign a petition that SPI Board could present to the EMU board, as well as sending e-mail or calling those who are supposed to represent them.

Footnotes never sanctioned threatening EMU board members as a tactic for getting Footnotes adequate space in the EMU. If there are any bullies in this EMU playground, they are on the EMU board.

Jenna Bayley
Psychology/Religious Studies

Basic ethics

The EMU Board is responsible for the day-to-day business and long-range planning of the EMU. This August, Footnotes' lease with the EMU will expire. As a board of directors, the EMU board, in routine business practice, was obligated to evaluate the current and future status of Footnotes' occupation of EMU space.

This routine evaluation led to a barrage of negative e-mails and phone calls directed at the board. Despite this, the board maintained its integrity, and chose to ignore these when making their decision. I believe this was demonstrated by the decision to renew Footnotes' lease.

What cannot be ignored, however, is the fact that Kristen King, Footnotes Coordinator, practiced discrimination. When Kristen King decided to delete a customer's file based on her involvement on the EMU board, she crossed a line. The question we are now faced with involves basic business

ethics and practices.

Now that this issue has been brought to light, the action (or inaction) the Footnotes Board of Directors take will demonstrate the true beliefs and practices Footnotes operates upon. This will be addressed by the EMU board the first Wednesday of spring term.

As always, we practice an open-door policy and encourage anyone with thoughts or concerns regarding this, or any other EMU issue, to contact us. We can be reached at EMUBoard@oregon or 346-3720.

Kim Guevara
Chair
EMU board

Race relevancy

There are few things in life which I enjoy more than my ethnicity. I love it. I cherish it. In fact, if my "multicultural" status were a more tangible entity, it is likely that I would be fondling it at this very moment.

Over the years, however, I have found little need to discuss the merits of my race. Perhaps I have been too focused on preparing for a lucrative career. Or maybe I just don't care enough about others to have realized that I have apparently been sur-

rounded by the ruins of racial division all my life.

When I arrived at this University fall term, however, I was promptly informed that racial tension is a prominent feature of campus life. *Emerald* columns this year have worked to confirm this. Yet after a few terms of passively observing racial separationists frantically scurrying back and forth within the safe confines of the EMU basement, I have formed two of my own conclusions.

First, if you don't wander too close to the ethnic student union barracks or ASUO vice president Glen Banfield, you are likely to encounter racial harmony on this campus. Second, while it is quite fashionable to feel oppressed, it's also terribly uncalled-for, especially at this University.

Furthermore, those few outraged individuals who continue to creatively invent instances of racism on this campus have worked against their own cause by consistently annoying the hell out of the otherwise apathetic masses. The answer here is not to talk about racism, as columnist Amanda Erickson suggests (*ODE*, March 10), but instead to acknowledge the fact that race issues have deteriorated into utter irrelevancy.

Ed Madrid
English

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