

THE RECORD

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Inside:

Interview with Lynda Sirk

The Record met with the newly appointed special assistant to the COO **p.5**

Throbbing Pulse
Dispatches from a fiery community meeting **p. 6**

AdCil and Com- Cil Election Re- sults

Find out who your representatives are for Fall Term **p. 8-9**

Satire

Past Record Editors Luke Brennan and Foster Neal offer their satirical view on the current turmoil **p.14**

Academia

How is the co-op office affected by the college suspension? What is new in AEA? Find out on **p.7**

Staff and the Caf

Antioch is running on low regime; read about the effects of the budget restrictions on **p. 4&6**

Memorabilia

Antioch Nostalgia on **p. 13**

College faculty pass vote of no confidence against Toni Murdock

By Alex Borowicz & Jeanne Kay

For the second time of her administrative career, Antioch University Chancellor Tullisse “Toni” Murdock has received a vote of no confidence. The resolution was unanimously passed by the 26 faculty members present at Tuesday’s faculty meeting.

The decision was a result of the events of Friday August 31st, when the news broke unexpectedly that Steve Lawry was stepping down immediately from Antioch’s presidency. Issues surrounding the Offices of Development and Alumni Relations were also raised after staff were sent home for a ‘long weekend’ and their offices’ locks changed. The announcement raised numerous questions within the community as the reasons surrounding Lawry’s sudden departure were unclear; in July he had announced his

resignation as of January 2008. Moreover, the news that Lawry was under a gag order which prevented him from commenting on the situation raised further suspicion about the real reasons behind his “resignation.”

The college faculty, in a statement released Thursday, condemned the fact that the administrative restructuring decision was taken without the input from neither AdCil nor faculty members. “It was done in a way that disregarded process and disregarded the opinions of anyone except a very small group of people that know very little about the college,” said Professor of Co-operative Education Eric Miller.

Furthermore, the effective removal of the position of president could potentially weaken the administrative infrastructure of the college. “The



lack of president leaves the college vulnerable at a time when experienced leadership and fundraising expertise is essential as the college develops a sustainable plan for survival,” emphasizes the faculty statement.

Continued on p.3

University Putsch changes climate on campus **As President is made to step down, college finds itself without executive leadership**

By Kim-Jenna Jurriaans

Sentiments at Antioch College are changing fast these days. Euphoria over the August 27th announcement that the Board of Trustees of Antioch University is willing to work with college alumni on a business plan to keep the College open past June 30, 2008 over the weekend has been replaced distrust and fear.

On Friday, University Chancellor Toni Murdock in a series of press releases announced college CEO President Steven Lawry stepping down effective immediately, to be replaced by an “administrative team” headed by former dean

of faculty Andrzej Bloch who assumes the new title of chief operating officer (COO) at the college.

Around the time Lawry’s sudden abdication was first presented to a selected group in a closed ad hoc meeting in Main building mid afternoon, employees of the college’s alumni relations and development offices found themselves confronted with a lock smith changing the locks on their office doors. “We were told to leave and we don’t have access to our first class accounts anymore,” head of Alumni Relations, Aimee Maruyama told The Record on Friday. Automated out of office replies were

installed on Maruyama’s mailbox and those of her colleagues Fred Kraus and head of development Risa Grimes, saying their office was closed for a long weekend and they would not be responding to their email until Tuesday.

When approached for comment at his house on Friday afternoon Steven Lawry said he was not allowed to talk, but confirmed he too no longer had access to his First Class account.

Lawry who on Friday morning was still planning with a student to join him on a trip to an alumni meeting in Chicago, had originally announced his resignation by 31 December 2007.

Uncertainty over the reason and implications of the Friday events and the abrupt nature in which they unfolded created a buzz among students and faculty on campus that quickly spread onto the alumni chat lists.

In a conference call on Saturday with University spokesperson Mary Lou LaPierre and newly appointed Special Assistant to the COO, Lynda Sirk, LaPierre commented on the Friday lockdown: “It is true the locks were changed. We are in the process of developing a new relationship with the alumni board.”

Continued on p. 3

Dear Community,

I’m sorry,” “you understand my position,” “I’d rather not,” “I don’t think it would be wise of me to speak, right now,” “don’t quote me on that, I will lose my job.” This is a selection from the repertoire of answers a reporter at Antioch has to work with these days.

With the firing of Steve Lawry, the college CEO was moved off campus and fear moved in. Some Non-unionized staff openly admit they are afraid to loose their jobs, others have been bullied to the point where they stopped caring.

This is not to say people have lost their voice altogether, but they have become selective where to put it. The last two month has seen a collective move away from the University server. .gmail replaced .edu. and mobile phones ousted the office land line. It’s sad, it has come so far that workers can no longer feel secure in their own office. And as much as I want to understand the responsibilities administrators like Milt Thompson have ”in these times”, this feeling of discomfort is not solved by hiring an extra security guard or locking buildings at night.

Mission Statement

To serve the information needs of the community in a continuous fashion
To provide all members of the community with access to their newspaper
To serve as a reliable instrument for recording the college’s history
To serve as a reliable intrsument for education in civic and journalistic responsibility



Special Thanks to:

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Dear Antiochians,

The quote that we almost chose for our masthead this week reads: “Everything secret degenerates. even the administration of justice; nothing is safe that does not not show how it can bear discussion and publicity” (-Lord Acton).

Since we have come back to campus, Kim and I have been surrounded by cautiousness. “Not on the record” or “I can’t comment on this”are phrases that we probably have heard more often in the past two weeks than previous Record Editors have throughout a whole term.

Yet this recurring silence is not due to a lack of things to say, and the numerous “Please don’t quote me on this” never fail to end up in a big, loud, “But...”

The Record cannot, however, run articles based on background or hearsay. As we are trying to find breaches in the increasingly thick fog of secrecy that has fallen on campus over the summer, we find ourselves bumping against more and more walls.

Since Friday, the haze has gone thicker still. After a week of respite and “cautious optimism” resulting from the Cincinnati Meeting, the events of last

Being the life artists they are, staff, students and faculty take it with a degree of humor. “I love about Antioch; It’s all about experiential learning. I feel like I’m experiencing fascism first hand,” one of our staff writers joked while watchfully sipping his cup of coffee behind the Sontag Fels Building this weekend. The mistrust remains.

Critical conversation around campus nevertheless is still very much alive. Classroom discussions digests the latest event of the day and one-on-ones in the hallways become impromptu meetings when passers- by smell a new perspective or juicy scoop. In many ways people are voicier than before as if freed from the idea that biting your chewed-out tongue one more time in a structure of eroding community standards is not going to cut it anymore.

As much as it continues to impose pressure and discomfort, the boards decision of the summer and university actions beyond, have shook up the community in ways it needed to be. I will argue that when we come out of this in one piece it will be this new spirit of faculty, students and staff that will ensure that, what we experience now will not happen to us again tomorrow.

-KJ

week have brought back distrust and anxiety. After believing that openness and candour were finally possible between the college and the other side of Livermore Street, we find ourselves questioning our own naivete. Locked doors. Gag Orders. Steve Lawry gone without a goodbye, and replaced with an ersatz of a president, who still does not know whom he reports to...

When we were sitting on the lawn in front of the Sontag Fels building this weekend, taking shifts to see whether anything secret would be secretly removed from the secret offices of the top secret development offices, an Antiochian declared, half amused: “Antioch is teaching me a lot these days. It’s like experiencing fascism firsthand!”

While the experience of having to deal with closed, opaque systems is certainly a valuable experience worthy of Antioch’s hands on tradition, we will hopefully soon learn how to dismantle them.

Candidly,

-JK

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McGregor moves to Campus West

By Jeanne Kay

At 8 a.m. on Tuesday 4th September; moving trucks are pulling up to Livermore Street and parking on all sides of Sontag Fels Hall. Movers are bustling in and out of the building, carrying cardboard boxes and office appliances. Three weeks before the beginning of their September Term, McGregor is moving to Campus West. Over the following four days, the University will be transferred to the new 94 000 square feet building on the edge of Yellow Springs.

McGregor University President Barbara Danley declared that she expected very minimal disruption in the activities of the University; “The building is already wireless, and we have a commitment to respond to our learners to the best of our capacity,” she said in an interview this morning. She confirmed that the IT department would be moved to the new campus but assured that service would continue to be provided to the college. She further dismissed the rumor that the building would be shared by franchised businesses: “We have committed ourselves to doing no harm to the Yellow Springs businesses”, she explained, “but we need to have a service providing quick food—not fast food—to our learners”. Danley reported having contacted local businesses such as Current Cuisine and Young’s Dairy to cater to the University.



The news about the Board of Trustee’s decision to suspend operations at Antioch College has had a negative effect on enrollments, according to Danley: “We got a big enrollment hit,” she declared. Targets, nevertheless, will be met: “We will reach our full numbers,” she assured. The previsions for the upcoming term are hovering around 750 full time undergraduate and graduate students.

In regard to concerns about McGregor courses, facilities and conferences being less accessible to students of the college, Danley said that the distance between the two campuses was walkable, and added that arrangements could potentially be made to facilitate the transfer from campus to campus.

The transition from Sontag Fels to West Campus will be complete on Friday 7th September. McGregor University will open its brand new

Toni’s vote of no confidence continued from p.1

Murdock’s decisions have come across as a blow to the campus morale, significantly uplifted following the August 25th meeting between community members and the Board of Trustees. The faculty statement acknowledges that “the lack of due process surrounding this decision is a violation of the trust that was beginning to be re-established between the college and the larger university.” Associate Professor of Photography Dennie Eagleson confirmed that the past few days’ events had undermined the renewed atmosphere of trust between the college and the university. “We have been operating this last week under the idea that the university was prepared to move forward. The [recent decisions] in terms of leadership and the manner in which they were taken seemed disrespectful of our processes and harmful to the current climate.”

As to whether the renewed mistrust will affect the Alumni Board’s capacity to

effectively cooperate with the University, Head of the Revival Governance Committee and alumna Ellen Borgersen commented: “I don’t see any difficulty with the faculty pursuing their rightful options and with the Alumni Board dealing with the trustees in a good-faith negotiation. They have interests and rights to pursue and they are justified in doing that and we are attempting to establish cooperation. We will continue doing that and I don’t see any conflict between the two.” Eric Miller emphasized that the situation further demonstrates the necessity of being independent from the university. “We cannot have somebody who doesn’t know how the college functions come in and make decisions like that. It’s outrageous.”

The faculty did not directly call for Murdock’s resignation. “We’re under no illusions about the kind of immediate results the no-confidence vote will have,” Miller admitted. “But it was very important to show for the record that she did not

have the support of faculty. We’re hoping that the BOT will take note of the no-confidence vote and take it into consideration in how they evaluate her work.”

It is not the first time that objections have been raised in regards to Murdock’s decisions. As president of Antioch University Seattle she had already received a vote of no confidence from her faculty. A Seattle faculty member who wished to remain anonymous recalled that the no confidence vote was taken in a period of budget transition, as funds and resources were increasingly devoted to the administration rather than to academics, and alleged that the faculty “found her difficult to work with.”

Eric Miller decried Murdock’s lack of support for the college. “It’s still up to her to prove that she has no animosity towards the college,” he added, “and that she actually supports the institution that she is supposed to be responsible for.”

Campus Putsch continued from p. 1

Up until now our fund raising efforts had been totally different. We told Risa [Grimes] and [administrative assistant] April [Ratliff], who were there, that, ‘until we have that new relationship, you should take a long weekend.’”

The events on Friday created a sense of mistrust between the development office staff and the University. “I might not be an Antiochian, but I can’t believe this is Antioch,” Grimes said after returning to her office this week. “This is not the Antioch I heard about. We are living in a state of fear.”

The level of tension in the atmosphere was clear during the September fifth community meeting on, when Bloch had to fend off a plethora of questions about the new chain of command and Lynda Sirk’s qualifications to oversee the Office of Development and Alumni Affairs.

Sirk had been working for the College as head of communications and PR since 2005, until last Friday, when she joined Milt Thompson and Andrzej Bloch as a member new “administrative team”, which is now running operations at the college. The day the announcement was made Sirk was on her way to Seattle to meet with the vice chair of University advancement there.

Thompson came to Antioch two years ago as head of auxiliary resources. In that capacity he was partially employed by the University until the elimination of the position of dean of students, which was held by Jimmy Williams until February of this year. In the restructuring process that followed the February job cuts, Thompson then became new vice president student affairs and services.

Interview with Lynda Sirk

The newly appointed Special Assistant to the COO on her new responsibilities

By Kim-Jenna Jurriaans

On Friday August 31st, Chancellor Toni Murdock announced the appointment of Lynda Sirk as part of a new administrative team to lead operations at Antioch College.

Sirk was hired to assist former dean of students Andrzej Bloch in his new dual position as Chief Operating and Academic Officer. “We needed someone with background in institutional advancement to help Andrzej with his responsibilities,” University spokesperson Mary LaPierre explained. The task of oversight and management was given to Lynda.” University spokesperson Mary Lou LaPierre explained. “We needed someone with background in institutional advancement to help Andrzej with his responsibilities.”

The Record asked the new special assistant to the COO Lynda Sirk about her background at the college and plans for her new position.

What will your new tasks consist of in the new structure with Andrzej and Milt ?

Well I'll be working, like it says, on public relations which fits with what I did. So I'll be in control of myself. And then working with institutional advancement. Andrzej is now taking on an additional role as dean of faculty plus taking on the president's work: that's a tremendous amount of work. It's enough to be dean of faculty and look over the academic program. We're an academic institution, so to be in charge of the academic institution is a big job. We haven't had a chance, Andrzej Milt and I to sit down and talk about how it's all this going to work so I'm going just on my perception of what I think: It would be impossible for Andrzej to also take on the responsibility of Institutional advancement. Steve was very involved in Institutional advancement and he understood it. He travelled, he fundraised, but Andrzej has his plate full. I started here in the institutional advancement office and college and university public relations is part of institutional advancement. And because I've had a lot of financial background it seemed like a natural fit. I don't see my role as trying to craft their job, these are very professional people here and I know that from working with them before. What I'm going to do as the administrative person is to make sure that their technology is up and running, that they have the things they need.

Why has this new position become necessary in

the new structure, why can't Andrzej take that on?

Because it's too much. He's got all the president's work plus all the academic work. Steve, when he was president, was very actively involved in here. He [Andrzej] can't do it, it's just superhuman. So now I will act as a liaison, I'll talk with them, they'll give me an idea what they're doing, I'll help them with some of their difficulties. Then I think the plan is for Andrzej and Milt and I to talk daily, have a short meeting every day just to sort of bring the three of us up to speed and say what do we need to do; are we having some difficulties somewhere, who can pitch in and take care of that, We have few staff, we have a very small staff and we have a very big job to do and that is to put on an academic year that is really robust and sound for the students that are here. So we're going to have to work closely to see that that happens.

And what exactly is your background in Institutional Advancement?

Well, other than the fact that I was actually in this office for a year and we had office meetings every week, in any of the other jobs I've had as director of communications I've always had to explain intricate financial information to large groups of people, the public. So I understand financing. In Dublin we had a 150,000,000 dollar general fund budget. That's a one hundred fifty millions dollars that we spent every year, and it was up to me to explain it to the public: where did it go, how was it spent, their role, and it was all funded by the community people so it's a very similar relationship. So I've had a lot of time with financial information and trying to explain it, negotiate it.

And while you were working here for a year, what capacity was that exactly? What were you doing?

I was the director of communications and public relations, so what I did was make contact with the alumni, worked with everybody here, we had a weekly meeting. We talked about how to engage alumni, with the message, how do we get together, what about reunion, things like that; so I listened and be part of their conversations about talking to and approaching alumni, and give some whatever and helping them craft material and messages and...

Is there a role for Adcil in the new structure that is created now? As a COO Andrzej does not have the same authority as the president, do you report back to Toni? Do you report to Andrzej?

I don't know. That would be a question you'd have to ask Andrzej. I report to Andrzej. And that's another reason that we want those daily meetings too is that the three of us, just like the people here [in the development office], will be working very closely together too.

So you report to Andrzej and Andrzej eventually reports to Toni. What is the level of communication and the level of interaction between you and the university?

Well, I think whenever they call...Steve was very open with all that. He gave his permission to have this talk and knew what was going on. There were times he would call me and say "what's up" or I would call him and say "I think you need to know this" so he was very open with that relationship and I would imagine that that will continue. Although I think I feel a real strong sense, particularly from

the conversation this morning that I will be very very focused on the campus and on institutional advancement and making sure that they are well served and that I support Andrzej and Milt in all the things that they need to do.

So your communication with the university will be limited, and will mostly be through Andrzej?

Well, I mean this is the first day, so I really can't say. Andrzej and Milt and I haven't met yet to even decide how that will be. Andrzej and I met very briefly today to just talk over some things, but we both said a daily meeting would be a good idea. But as far as having the three of us sit down and see how do we relate how do we talk, how do we connect, we haven't had a chance to do that yet.

Were you hired into this position by Toni?

Well, I think it was a collaboration with Toni and Milt and Andrzej.

So Andrzej and Milt got to state a preference as to who would take the position?

Oh, I have no idea

You say it was a collaboration...

Well they were there when this whole thing was discussed. Now, how did it come about? I can't say that. Did they talk in advance? I don't know. I was away so I don't know who was in on those conversations.

“I’ve always had to explain intricate financial information to large groups of people, the public. So I understand financing.”

Do you have a specific fundraising plan? Is it all going to be left over to Risa? What is your background in fundraising? Do you have any background?

We talked about this at the meeting and that's definitely up to them to do. They are professionals at that, that's not my role, that's theirs. They work together well, they have a clear idea of where they want to go. I see my role as more of an advocate for them and to make sure they have what they need, not to dictate to them what is a fundraising plan. They are good at that.

How do you think you can overcome the events of last Friday when the development staff was locked out of their offices. It's a bad start to a working relationship when people express a lot of mistrust now going into this year.

As Aimee said when she brought it up [during a meeting on Tuesday], she said "I know you weren't here and weren't part of that, but you need to know how we feel about this right now." So when she explained it, I said then you'll have to help me understand over time what can be done to help you feel more comfortable with what happened. And they said we haven't thought about that yet, we haven't gotten to that place but we will. And I'll continue to ask them about that so that we can work something out.

Continued on the next page.

Interview continued from previous page

Are there plans to prepare recruitment for 2008. Steve talked about it although there wasn't a full okay to start because of the financial exigency?

Well that's an Andrzej area. I'm just in institutional advancement, not admissions. So I know the alumni board is talking with the BOT about what we can and what we cannot do with admissions now, but that's a whole different area.

So you're going to focus on the facilitation part, you don't have a background in fundraising specifically?

Right. That's not my role. That's what they're professionals in, now I did ask them and we talked about being able to talk once or twice a week so I can have a talking knowledge of what their plans are. All this comes back to budget and what they're putting together. If I can just hear and understand their plans, then administratively I can support them better on what they decide to do

Do the people in the alumni and development office feel there is a need for a facilitator to be coordinating between Andrzej and the development office?

They have a lot of unanswered questions, and so we're going to find out those answers for them. [...] They said if you can give us direction, can we go ahead and do this? Absolutely I said, I think you can. Give me your questions and I'll make sure I get those answers so you can go ahead and do your work and well try to get these answers for you. So there are some facilitation issues that do need to happen so they can not be bogged down and move forward and they're good people and they're good at what they do.

In the ideal scenario, what would you see as your role between development and the alumni, since that's where a lot of the force comes from right now?

Well, when I was in this office before, I worked very closely with Rick Daily so I've had a relationship with him; he was on my communications committee. I worked closely with alums, and I see this as a highly collaborative, very sharing environment. That's our goal, that's our effort, that's what Wendy and Risa and Aimee are excited and willing and prepared to do and that's absolutely what we're going to do.

Out of the telephone conversation this morning between you, members of the University leadership and alumni board, can you mention some of the key points that have been decided.

Well I'd say there were eight or 10 things that were talked about, one of which is of course that Aimee as a resource will be available to all the alumni chapters. They designated four

point-people from the alumni board that will be the conduit for questions and requests from the alumni board. It should be more assured that they'll get what they need and get it in a timely manner. They discussed a goal and a goal of the institution that both sides agreed on is to have a collaborative sharing environment where the college provides as much information as it can. Both sides recognized during the conversation that we have a very limited staff and within that limited staff there's only so much you can do in a day with getting your regular job done plus the request for information. So they said, given a small staff, everything within our power we will do to try to provide. Knowing that there's a short timespan for what the alumni board is trying to do, we'll try to put as much effort as possible into providing them with whatever they need.

For how long did you work for the Dublin School system?

About 10 years, I was the director of communications, PR, and business liaison. So I was the direct contact with the community. It's a structure very much like the college and the alums, where you have an admin staff, you have a teaching staff which is the faculty, and then you have the group at large that contributes the money that makes the machine run. The difference is just that the Dublin school system has 13000 students and 150 000 000 dollar general fund budget, so it's a bigger operation than what Antioch has here. But the structure and the way information flows, the fact that it is an educational institution and the way it is put together is very similar.

Is it true you have worked a couple of years for homeland security after that?

No. A couple of years I was at the state level head and I worked with all the school treasurers in the state of Ohio. There are 614 districts in the state and I worked with all of them. And again, that is a strong financial piece.

Over the course of the summer there was a lot of bad media attention for the college. Students working over the summer hear from their colleagues 'oh you're from that violent school.' What have your efforts been over the course of the summer to turn that around?

Well that reputation was out there long before all of this started.

Do you have specific plans media and publicity wise: an image campaign for the college?

Well, I also have the Antiochian. So on top of all this, I also write the magazine and publish that. I have an edition that's ready to go out, but the three stories that Steve and I had developed probably three months ago have changed over the last several months. Every time it gets ready to go to press, it's different. At this point I have a magazine that's about 90 percent done

so at this point in time I have to pull all that.

“Knowing that there's a short timespan for what the alumni board is trying to do, we'll try to put as much effort as possible into providing them with whatever they need.”

Well, apart from the Antiochian, on the alumni forums I see there are committees dedicated to PR to make a positive image for the college; is there any co-operative efforts or planning between you and the alumni to put out positive PR for the college while they are trying to raise money to keep the college open?

Well there's always been a communications subcommittee of the alumni board. Rick Daily was on there and there are probably eight or 10 people on that committee. But I haven't had a chance to meet since all of this started. But there has been a really strong committee and I have gotten a lot of good direction from them and we have worked very closely together. I've always had a co op student or a fwsp student and I am supposed to get one this term. But they haven't been assigned yet. I've always enjoyed having a student. That's why I want to be in education because I really enjoy being around students

But are there any concrete plans putting out positive PR for the revival in your capacity as PR director, even though you're working under a different title?

Well we've always put it out, in fact I've gotten complaints from people because it's too positive, we need to put out some negative PR because it's too positive.

When I got here there wasn't one email address not one email address. I had to establish a lot of processes whether it's a press release, or the good news email, which now I have over 6000 people who've signed up for that. Those are the vehicles I use to get the good news out, and also the Antiochian. I think the centerfold of this Antiochian will probably be the three resolutions and that historic board meeting on August 25 and the agreement to work so closely in supporting the boards plan, I've talked to Nancy Crow about writing an article for it.

Are you personally committed to keeping Antioch College open past 2008?

Sure. I am committed to supplying the alumni board with as much information as they need to make the best decisions as possible. This is a moment in history and we don't have much time to make it.

“I’m taking one day at a time”

Antioch College staff not yet rushing after new jobs despite uncertain future

By Alex Borowicz

The announcement by the Antioch University Board of Trustees to suspend the operations of Antioch College in 2008 has had resounding consequences across the entire college campus. Staff reductions have created tension as the workloads of former staff members are distributed among those who endure, students find limited access to resources, and rumors about the closing or persisting float back and forth across campus.

During the three months following the announcement of suspensions, the staff of the school has been whittled down to a bare minimum. Many areas of the Antioch College infrastructure have experienced staff cuts. Offices such as the admissions office were the most obvious choices for staff reductions, but other areas of the college have been impacted as well. Employees in the

Academic Support Center, Physical Plant, Olive Kettering Library, and development office have also been fired.

The fact lingering in the minds of all of the college’s faculty and staff is that, under the current board decision, all are facing an uncertain future in terms of employment. According to the U.S. Department of Education, the number of faculty jobs in higher education has increased by over 50% between 1981 and 2001, while the number of full time positions has actually decreased by 9% of the total positions.

Reactions among staff to the pending closure, and the effect it may have upon their career is largely cautious.

“It’s so up and down, I don’t know what to tell you,” said Carolene Minter of the Financial Aid Office at Antioch. “I wish I had a concrete answer.”

Many staff members are unwilling to make solid plans for the future. “Some things you control, and some things you can’t. I’m taking one day at a time,” conceded Marcia Brim, college custodian and steward for the Local 767 of the United Electrical, Radio, and Machine workers of America (UE 767). “[Antioch] has educated me in a way no other place could,” the 37-year employee added. Some staff members are entitled to severance packages upon the termination of their employment, especially those who are represented by labor unions. Severance packages often include additional payment after termination, payment for

unused sick days or vacation days, and insurance possibilities.

Staff without severance packages may find it increasingly appealing to search out new employment, as there is no economic benefit to remaining at an institution with an uncertain future. Former Interim Director of Admissions Jennifer Rhyner has taken this approach. Rhyner recently left the Antioch College admissions office to pursue a new position in the Financial Aid department of Carthage College in Kenosha, Wisconsin. “I really enjoyed working with her for the last couple of years,” said Angie Glukhov, Director of Admissions for Antioch College.

Conversely, former Admissions Counselor Brad Choate was fired three months ago and has had little success in finding a new job. Choate, an alumnus from 2005, joined the admissions team after discovering his love of academia while on co-op. “I had made the decision that I wanted to continue to work in higher education. I haven’t had much luck pursuing that end, though,” Choate said. After applying for some ten vacancies in varying positions, he was turned down each time. “I only wanted to work at small liberal arts schools with similar values to Antioch’s,” Choate mentioned. Certainly, such institutions are a dying breed in a world of increasingly market-driven institutions of higher education. “I think my experience with Antioch was a bonus rather than a detractor,” he said.

Dispatches from Community Meeting

Pulse Throbs as Andrzej Bloch Addresses community

By Billy Joyce and Kelsey Macdonald

On Tuesday afternoon Antioch’s most famous weekly rendezvous again gave daytime tv a run for its money. First years: Community Meeting is Antioch 101. It’s where progressive ideals and the quirks of living in a tiny community grind against each other in the hopes of accomplishing the week’s business. And the whole institution facing annihilation twist just ups the ante as Corri, Chelsea, and Rory moderate the room.

With a guest appearance by Andrzej Bloch, the college’s new Chief Operating Officer (COO), the meeting climaxed and reached its restless denouncement during Pulse. Bloch, appointed to the COO role in light of former president Steve Lawry’s hasty resignation, danced in front of the room while he fielded questions from an array of community members representing nearly every constituency on campus.

Bloch, in a speech pre-empting Pulse, stated that Lawry’s early resignation came as a surprise and he refused to answer any questions pertaining to the specificity of Lawry’s decision. Bloch made it

clear that as COO he is committed “to secure the best conditions for students and faculty.”

He announced that he was making budget room for new library employees.

But looking on the bright side if all this happened second week what could we possibly be afraid of eighth week?

He also stated and reiterated throughout the course of the meeting that he must serve a dual role in the capacity of COO. First he must keep the closing date of the college in mind and he must keep an eye on the possibility that the college might stay open.

Many faculty members raised issue with the tenor and significance of the new language of the title “Chief Operations Officer.” Scott Warren asked that, if in a standard corporate structure the COO must report to a Chief Executive Officer (CEO), who the CEO of the College is. Bloch responded that he had not thought of the implications of the new terminology and that he didn’t have an answer to the question at that time.

Susan Eklund-Leen asked that Bloch clarify the reasoning behind Lynda Sirk’s hiring into the new position as assistant to Bloch. The latter responded that with Syrk installed as an assistant that communications would be streamlined. Eklund-Leen then asked Bloch who she worked for, the University or the College, and to “run tight herd” on her.

Bloch was later grilled by alumni relations officer Aimee Maruyama ‘96 whom on Friday was

one of the employees who were asked to go home early. The locks to their offices were subsequently changed, their FirstClass access was restricted, and the IT department constructed out of office reply messages to any incoming email to their account, signing their names at the bottom. She asked, “I wonder if any of us have given you a reason to show that level of mistrust for our professionalism?”

Bloch answered, “Already the decisions were made. And I’m not going to second-guess why those decisions were made.”

His response garnered dismayed laughter, boos, and hisses from the crowd. He promised to speak to Maruyama about the decisions and asked them to “just accept it for what it is.”

Nicole Bayani asked Bloch if he would want the College to stay open, to close, or to reopen again in four years. He said, “Suspending operations at the college is not a wise idea,” and that he was “open minded to any possibilities that could keep the college open.”

Emily Mente asked if Bloch would continue Lawry’s commitment to attend each community meeting for the rest of the term to which he agreed.

Earlier in the meeting candidates for AdCil and ComCil announced their intentions for running and listed their credentials. Some old faces and some new, but each candidate was on board with perennial ComCil candidate Scott Warren’s charge that “this year, more than ever, we need to build community.”

But looking on the bright side if all this happened second week what could we possibly be afraid of eighth week?

Antioch Education Abroad to Revamp EIT Program

By Jessica Rapchik

Experiential education is the cornerstone of the Antioch College, so it comes as no surprise that Antioch Education Abroad (AEA) has recently revamped its Europe In Transition program in order to meet the challenges and realities of the current political paradigm.

Since Europe In Transition’s (EIT) inception as “Urban Term” in 1972, students from Antioch College and a multitude of other universities have traveled through Europe during designated spring terms in order to explore a comparative approach of post-communism and post-industrialism.

While this may have been considered exceptionally relevant in the 1970s, Leslie King, the program coordinator, thinks that the program has begun to lose its appeal in the last several years, acknowledging, “One of the reasons for change is noticing that this intensive post-communist study has not been appealing to students in this day and age as much anymore.”

This has been attributed to the changing geopolitical landscape. With traditional-age college students primarily identifying with military adventurism in Yugoslavia and Iraq as opposed to the fall of the Berlin Wall, AEA is hopeful that the inclusion of Turkey in the program in place of the Czech Republic and Hungary will “strengthen” the comparative approach.

Kim Sims, AEA’s Associate Director and Program Director for EIT, noted that the program has had a long history of revision, with countries such as Sweden and Yugoslavia included for study and travel in earlier years. Sims thinks that the inclusion of Turkey will prove to be rewardingly challenging, stating, “We’ll be grappling with things that are too politically sensitive to

address in a frontal matter, like the role of the military in political life, the Armenian genocide, and the Kurdish situation. These are things we’re all interested in and may have close personal investment in, but if we’re interested in it academically, we need to look at it from a different lens and in a way that won’t endanger our hosts or ourselves.”

Sims also added that the inclusion of Turkey in the program is not simply in response to its prominence in the headlines or its troubled political history. The program has been redeveloped in order to expand the relation of countries and their political and economic systems within the comparative context. The differences between Turkey and Eastern Europe are more striking than the differences that had presented themselves while EIT was concentrated between Eastern European countries of propinquity. Sims hopes to tie in the experiences of Germany and Poland with those of Turkey, by situating students in homestays with families that are representative of the general population and housing them with migrants, primarily in Turkish neighborhoods. This should provide a supportive foundation to study transnational linkages in a way that hasn’t been explored before in the program.

Although Turkey has been added as a location for study and individual research within the program, the majority of the curriculum will remain unchanged. The ability to “study seemingly incongruous environments”, according to Sims, will differ greatly in that, “similar places, for comparative projects, look at how cases relate as opposed to comparing them to control variables.” Sims sees the addition of Turkey in the program as an invaluable means of exacting the differences between these countries while still finding and researching points of relevance.

Both King and Sims maintained that they would consider first-year applicants, but they highly emphasized the research work that would be entailed, strongly suggesting that students with a second-year status or higher apply. The deadline for applications is October 30.

College suspension creates Co-op quandry

By Eva Erickson

Limited opening hours at the library, closed administrative buildings and overall “continental” meals at the caf stand out among the direct results of the downscaling of operations at Antioch College following the announcement that the school would close by June 2008. Less prominent in current community discussion, the co-op office too is taking hits that will take rebuilding if efforts to keep Antioch open are successful.

Over the past five years, the numbers of Antioch students employed across the country and abroad through the co-op office varied between 200 and 300 per semester. Now the number is less than 30 students.

With the pending closure of the college, student’s priorities have changed. Where the chance to work a term on an organic farm or assist a congress person on Capitol Hill would make upperclassmen pack their bags for New Zealand or Washington D.C, they are now concerned with graduating, having a more transferrable repertoire of classes, or they simply want to experience one more year of community life on campus. Although some schools can transfer co-ops into four to eight academic credits or a vocational internship, in many colleges they are not easily equated into the curriculum. Thus, most students decline the unique opportunity.

The decrease of co-oping students creates a

problem for the colleges Co-op office, that in the current model has contractual obligations to the majority of employers featured on the list of annual job offerings. What happens now to all of the Co-op employers, communities, and students who would have normally taken part in the co-op program? The immediate reaction of co-op employers to Antioch’s closure varied, said Eric Miller, Assistant Professor of Co-operative education and alumnus of the college. “Some simply hired the next volunteer on the waiting list, some expressed deep hurt and shock,” Miller recalls from his interactions with employers over the last two months. “Others decided to tentatively wait to see what will happen. This is the group we really need to encourage to stick with us because they’re the most flexible.”

Regardless of the adaptability of some employers, with just upwards of 30 students willing to fill positions on the current job list, it is likely the co-op office will lose co-op employers in the short run. Many employers are not overly dependent on Antioch, according to Miller, “but some full-time employers are always waiting for the next Antiochian to come along.”

For those who are just one co-op away from graduation, the college has decided to allow a pre-Antioch job experience to count as a co-op credit, and is also offering a limited co-op term next fall.

“If I have anything to say,” advises Miller, “it would be to stay optimistic – there are many Co-op employers who are doing more than just crossing their fingers, as am I, so we may all have another chance for a co-op.”

Faculty Profile:

Conrad Zagory

By Miyuki Sese

As a Japanese exchange student and new addition to the Record Staff I had the pleasure to interview the new adjunct for Japanese, Professor Conrad Zagory. Zagory, or Konrad for Antiochians, lived in Japan for twenty years and hence speaks Japanese fluently, including the dialect of Kochi Prefecture and I can tell you that’s pretty cool.

He was first introduced to the language as a student at Antioch College when he spent his exchange year at Waseda University, one of the most famous universities in Japan, from 1967 to 1968. His stay in Japan sparked an interest in the language and by the time he left he was able to understand basic Japanese. After returning to America he entered Stanford University where he majored in Asian languages and acquired his Ph.D. He later learned more about the Japanese language and literature.

When he went back again in 1972 he took intensive Japanese lectures in Tokyo before moving to Kochi Prefector in the south of Japan to teach English full time at the Koshi Medical school. There he fell in love with the culture of Japanese traditional pottery called Odo-yaki, he said.

Unsurprisingly he fell in love with a Japanese woman and got married in 1980. His first baby girl, Aya was born soon after in 1982 followed by Ninsei in 1985.

As an alumnus living in town he has a soft spot for the college. So when Antioch struggled to find a Japanese professor for 2007, he gladly accepted the offer to teach. “I am heart sick about the possibility of the college closing. If it does suspend operations, I do not think it will re-open. And if it does, I do not think it will be anything like the Antioch we know,” he said sadly.

In my short time here I got to share Zagory’s love for Antioch and I hope my experience here will be as precious as his in Japan. Chatting with Professor Zagory was engaging, and he has a lot of knowledge to share. So I suggest the next time you run into him in the hallway you talk with him, whether you are interested in Japan or not.

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE

ComCil Elected Representatives- Fall 2008



Beth Goodney
Student Member

Field of study-
Self design major in sexuality
Statement of intent:

I'm a fourth year here at Antioch, and I am so committed to doing work here in the community. I feel it's really important we work this year on keeping the school open as a four year residential undergraduate liberal arts institution with tenured faculty, a union, and shared governance. I don't think Antioch can exist without that, they can call it what they want but it will not be Antioch

Mariel Traiman
Student Member



Field of study-
Media Arts

Statement of intent

I plan to act as a liaison and advocate between students and community government, analyze the relevance of the leg code, and to commit myself to upholding the shared governance model we all signed on for. I also hope to save Antioch.

Bob Devine
Faculty Member

Field of study-
Communications and media arts
Statement of intent-
To maintain community



Fela Pierrelouis
Student Member

Field of study-
Women's studies/Sociology
Statement of intent

I have been at Antioch approximately three years. My experience with Comcil has been that it is a great place for community issues to be processed and discussed. It gives the student and staff folks a space to work together on different issues that affect our community and our lives. Some of it has been very productive, though I feel it could use more structure around facilitation and sticking to its agenda. Comcil is a great place for student and faculty to learn about the leg. Code and how Antioch is supposed to be run, even if we don't follow them a lot

Erin-Aja Grunt
Student Member

Field of study-
Education
Statement of intent

I am hoping this year to be one person on Comcil that is advocating for everyone's academic needs are met, while people are hustling and bustling to keep the college open. I want to make sure the academics don't get lost in all of the chaos, because Antioch is still an amazing learning environment



Katrina Dorsey
Staff Member

Statement of intent
I am a student life professional with 20 years experience working at colleges and universities. I value the community and value the standards of this community.



Scott Warren
Faculty Member

Field of study-
Philosophy
Statement of intent
To strengthen our community life, so we will be ready for keeping the college open.



Jamila Hunter
Student Member

Field of study-
CIS

Statement of intent
To be a part of the community in both good and bad times
I want to show the strength of the true community.

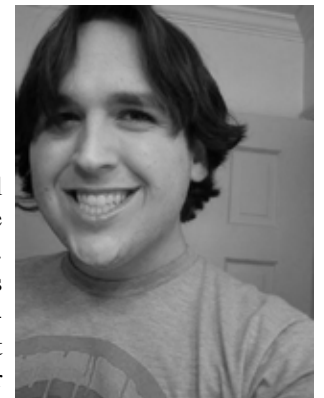


Ben Horlacher
Student Member

Field of Study-
Literature

Statement of intent-

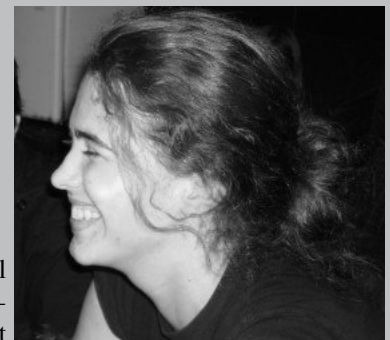
As a member of ComCil I will be a strong advocate for the ideals of shared governance. I will adhere to, and, as it is necessary, assist in amending, the Leg Code. As a first year, and a dedicated member of the Antioch community, I promise to bring a fresh perspective to discussions, while becoming more aware of, and being informed by, the institutional memory of the college.



Sarah Buckingham
Student Member

Field of study-
Philosophy/Media arts
Statement of intent
ComCil is an integral part of shared governance at Antioch and it is more crucial for all of

us to participate in a meaningful way now than ever before. Maintaining a vibrant community is extremely important in these unusual and uncertain times. If Antioch College continues operations uninterrupted, our governance bodies and processes will be ready to revitalize our college and community!



COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE

AdCil Elected Representatives Fall 2008



Eric Miller

Faculty Member

Antioch College Alumnus
Professor of Co-operative Education

Statement of intent

I am very interested in the alumni connections.



Emma Emmerich

Student Member

Education/Design Major

Statement of intent

I would like to be a part of Adcil so that I may help represent the students, and be a part of important decisions here at Antioch

Hassan Rahmanian

Faculty Member

Professor of Management/SGS

Statement of intent

I want to work to regain the historical institutional role of the college with self governance, and work towards building a new independent Antioch.



Julian Sharp

Student Member

Peace and global studies major

Statement of intent

Our school is under siege. It is our moral responsibility to save Antioch, or try or damndest, because together we can.



Kari Thompson

Student Member

Communication Major

Statement of intent

First we need to define the role of being the advisory council to the president within a college with no president. Then we need to demand transparency from the administrators of the college, and an active involvement within the decision making process. If that all works out, we fight to keep the college open, if not, I guess we gotta fight harder.



Popularity Planner

• Friday Sept. 7 to Thursday Sept. 13 •

FRIDAY

>> 12 p.m. in the Antioch Inn: **First Friday Series with Piedrahita Sanchez**, Feminist and Human Rights Activist
>> 7 p.m. -12 a.m. in the Amphitheater: **Blues Fest**

SATURDAY

>> 6 p.m. in Mills Kitchen: **Vegan Potluck**
>> 12-7 p.m. at the Antioch Theater: **Paths Crossing Paths**, bring your instrument
>> 5:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m. in the Amphitheater: **Blues Fest**

SUNDAY

>> **Blues Fest** continues...
>> 3 p.m.-5 p.m. in the Gym: **Paul Morton teaches Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu**

MONDAY

>> Free, Confidential **HIV Testing** in the Counseling Center
>> 7 p.m.: **Peace Cokie Decorating**

TUESDAY

>> 8 a.m. in Main Building Conference Room: **AdCil**
>> 3 p.m. in McGregor 113: **Community Meeting**
>> 7 p.m. in the CSKC: **(Being) Peace in our World**

WEDNESDAY

>> 7 p.m. in the C-Shop: **Leadership for Change Class**, Everyone Welcome
>> 9 p.m. in the Fishbowl: **Way Out Open Mic**

THURSDAY

>> 3 p.m. in Main Building Conference Room: **ComCil**

In Burma, A New Breath for Old Songs

By Paige Clifton-Steele

Surnames omitted to protect people's identities.

It is the Sunday of the birthday of the Buddha, the beginning of a new season in Burma. In this neighborhood, in the lively slum of Rangoon, is any slower paced than usual it is because so many people are at the ancient Shwedagon Shrine paying their respects. Inside this sweltering house, the faces of the nine musicians in the room glisten with a higher sheen than their various instruments, whose varnish has long since been worn away.

A structure of cement and corrugated metal, the house is owned by the brother of one of the musicians, a blind mandolin player with betel-stained teeth named Ko Pauk. Pauk, who began playing the mandolin at about the age of ten, was quickly recognized by his contemporaries as a musician of promise. Older musicians came to study or play with him. Now in his fifties, he still plays with the same core group who gathered around him when he was young.

In fact, of the fifteen musicians who will pass through this room today, only one is under the age of thirty. The rest are in their late forties and fifties. They gather, as many of them have for thirty years, to play the khi'haung--the "old era" songs. The term covers a time from roughly 1895 until 1960, and spans from Burmese folk songs to the 40's pop tunes.

Maung Maung, a violinist friend of Pauk's, wistfully

remembers a time when the country's mood was different--when people learned and played the old songs: "It was the atmosphere. It was...full of music." Few young people are interested in the older songs, while rock and hip-hop are increasingly accessible, thanks to advances in copying technology.

Neighbors watch with bemused curiosity through the barbed wire that sections off the open window, or glance in through the open wall that faces the pitted street. The musicians gather in the early afternoon and sometimes play late into the night, sustained on pastries and milky coffee. Today, Ko Pauk has his mandolin. On Maung Maung's lap, a resin-dusted violin, a slide guitar. On any given day, this place might also see a half dozen additional instruments. And while some of them are familiar to Western audiences, others, like the Burmese harp on the farm table, are not. An elaborate, boatlike instrument with a black-lacquered body, the harp is supposed to house a nat: one of the traditional Burmese spirits that make their homes in everything from trees to lakes to birdhouse-like home shrines built for them.

And of the familiar set, some of them--the slide guitar, for instance, have been tuned to a different set of scales. While in the west a guitar's base to treble strings are tuned to E, A, D, G, B, and E, in Burma they are G, C, F, G, C, F. Increasingly, though, western scales are favored. Another feature of the music is the gong and wooden clapper that one musician--sometimes the singer--uses to keep time to the music. Even piano performances would

sound off to these musicians without the gong-chime.

There is little synergy between the old songs and contemporary ones, says Hnin Pwing, a Burmese student who, thanks to a grant, was able to study music and community development in Thailand. "Burmese music is complicated--it is very different from western music. To combine them effectively...you have to know old music well. You have to know the modern music also. But it is hard to get a music education in Burma."

The content of the modern songs, he adds, is often bland because of government censorship. Songs may not criticize the government. Songs may not suggest that the Burmese people are unhappy, the Burmese economic condition bleak, or the Burmese country mired in a dictatorial quagmire. What's left to the artists are unprovocative love songs, or--if they are daring--allegories. Phy recalls a popular musician who referred to renowned activist Aung San Syu Kyii in a song by metaphor. "It was called the Myawaddy. The Myawaddy is a river, and he is saying it goes on and on. She is like the river--she will be remembered and cannot be removed overnight." The song was banned by the Burmese Censorship Board.

Burmese old era songs cover a range of subjects. Some of them are love songs. Some are morality tales. Some are Jataka--stories from the Buddha's life, generally told from a Burmese angle, even if they take place in India. One of the persistent themes in the older songs is regret for the lost Mandalay kingdom. The songs had their genesis in 1895, when the British arrested the Burmese king and queen and sent them into

exile. One has only to observe the reverence which with the people of Burma's neighbor--Thailand--still hold their king, to understand the void it must have left in the culture.

Few of these songs are written down. Recently, the government issued a multi-volume compendium, but one of the musicians in the room disparages it as arbitrarily selective and "written by committee". The government promotes the old music in several other visible, though rarely substantive ways. Khi'haung musicians appear on the government television channel and there is a yearly khi'haung competition (in which Ko Pauk has three gold medals for the mandolin). It is a part of the government's unrelenting promotion of Burman culture--often at the expense of the culture, and musics of the various peoples of Burma. Generally, the old songs, which do not deal with contemporary political issues, are considered less threatening than modern music.

And yet, it's not always the case. In the late afternoon, the musicians in this house--every instrument available--strike up the strangely dissonant tones of a piece called "Nga Ta Ba". It takes place at a time in Burmese history when the king has been defeated or died, and the nga da ba, or regent, goes to the abbot and flatters him: "I am not the king," he says. "But you are wise like the Buddha and your feet are like the Buddha's." The abbot is not impressed and dismisses the flattery. "You are not the king. You don't have to wear the shoes of the king. Wear your own shoes". You can rule with my blessing, but only if you don't abuse your power."

The Illuminati Corner*

By Luke Brennan

My comrades and compatriots, in observance of the harvest moon and the lunar eclipse, the sorcerer lizards in the highest echelons of the defense establishment have once again turned their evil eyes onto our little piece of the world, and through their operatives dismissed former President Larry, and sent security officers to prowl his office for sensitive materials that might undermine their quest for domination. This grim harvest also involved a surprise three-day weekend for anyone involved in any attempt to prevent Antioch's closure, allowing ample time for the shape-shifters to pilfer any useful documents from the offices of development and alumni relations.

The move by the evil elite also involved placing a former operative of the office of Homeland Security into the trifecta of terror now ruling our college under the auspicious guidance of two-time winner of faculty votes of no-confidence Chancellor Tony Murdoch. Among her lackeys, a Chief Operating Officer, whose role in the closure of the college will doubt-

less be pivotal, has replaced the vacant office of the president, likely providing the university's legal council with a convenient gray area through which they can railroad their devious plans to melt Antioch into mediocrity, and prevent non-conformist thought from disseminating through the future.

From their new perch on the far side of town, the oppressive cabal jealously eyes the enthusiasm and talent of our students and faculty, and wonders why the dull-eyed McGregories don't stack up. The evil minds behind these plans are not visible to us, and their figureheads with whom we interact tend to be potato-munching livestock of pedestrian talent. That said I would like to offer my congratulations to L. S. for her loyalty to the reptilian cause, providing the most insipid and inept public relations the world of higher education has ever seen. It seems only natural her efforts would be rewarded by advancement in our institution. After all, the most recent Antiochian had barely more spelling errors than the Record under Foster and me. May Moloch bless spell check.

So with all the forces of the Annunanki at our gates with the fury of the barbarian horde, whither do we turn? Their grasp is expansive and their quest for power unceasing. It is the il-

luminati who tend the systems of oppression that Antioch has long rebelled against. We pose a threat to the continuing oppression of humankind, and for that Antioch has been sentenced to death. While a last minute stay of execution may not be impossible, be assured that our closure serves an elite agenda, and the resources that can be mobilized against us are impressive, but they are flawed. They are filled with people of run-of-the-mill vision and talent, and we can exploit that weakness by contributing to the cause in creative and unforeseen ways. We are a shining city on a hill, a light unto the world. The forces of evil will besiege us eternally; this fight will not be won in Yellow Springs, or even on North America. Antioch will only be secure in a world where the powerful are a memory and social justice a reality. Because that lofty goal seems nigh impossible, we must be prepared to fight hard, and not expect instant results. Here a battle is being fought, and should we fail, that failure will be a failure of humanity in the face of lizards. So be ashamed to die until you've won, if not for humanity, for your fellow mammals.

**The illuminati corner is Satire. So take it with a grain of salt.*

OBAMA WATCHER

By Kathryn Leahey

"I would say at this point that he still has that magic." – Sen. Dick Durbin (D-IL.)

Magic. Star power. Balls. Whatever one calls it, Barack's got it. And yes, he is Black enough. But, alas, this champion of ethics reform (ethics? out of Chicago?), recently deemed a "rock star" by the unsurpassable political mind of George Clooney, still trails in the polls.

The latest Rasmussen Report shows Obama garnering 23% of the support for the Democratic nomination to the 39% of a certain "liberal" New York senator. For once, the Democratic Party is actually less divided than the GOP. Yet a question remains as to whether either of the forerunners will survive the primaries. The party as a whole finds both candidates unelectable; an astonishing 54% say that a Caucasian male, most likely John Edwards, being nominated is likely, if not inevitable. Is it possible, that in the year 2008, the country's mainstream progressive party, faced with presidential hopefuls including a woman, the country's only Senator of African descent, and a Latino governor (New Mexico's Bill Richardson is of predominately Mexican heritage) with a résumé longer than H.E. Sheikh Haya Rashed al Khalifa's monogram, would still choose the WASPy male personal injury attorney?

So, in these times of doom, gloom, and intimidating statistics, what is Barack up to? At the moment, the whole of his campaign workers is keeping busy with the "Countdown to Change", organizing in the early primary states of Iowa, South Carolina, Nevada, and New Hampshire. Maintaining its grassroots philosophy, the campaign relies heavily on the contributions, both organizational and monetary, of individual volunteers around the country. Barack continues to sit down to quiet, official dinners periodically with members of his constituency, generally chosen from those who have made small contributions to the election effort.

Meanwhile, he's been remaining highly present in the media, recently writing a hard-hitting article for the New York Daily News on his plans for Middle Eastern foreign policy, including the Iran Sanctions Enabling Act he introduced to Congress in May. The near-constant stream of debates has continued, including the AFL-CIO debate in my hometown of Chicago a few weeks past, during which Obama's opponents continued to attempt to undermine his readiness for the presidency. Most arguments were easily deflected on his part with grace, although even his most die-hard supporters grow a bit weary of Barack reiterating the fact that he voted against the war, unlike his opponents. When the strong corporate and lobbyist ties of a certain "feminist" were mentioned, she attempted to avoid the subject by smiling at the audience and saying, "So if you want a winner who knows how to take them on, I'm your girl." My girl? Really, Senator Clinton? I was under the impression that you're 59? Isn't that a little old to be making public statements befitting a 13 year old running for captain of the junior high cheerleading squad? Go red! Red white blue!



The next Renewal Plan, by Foster Neill

Lust with Levi

Dear Levi B.,

I have a question that I'm a little embarrassed to ask. My partner is the top in bed, and I would like to try topping her, for a change, but I'm a little nervous and don't know how to begin. Do you have any tips for a first-time top?

Sincerely,
Bottom-No-More?

Dear Bottom,

Let's start by defining your terms. The word "top" can have different meanings based on the context in which it's used. Some people use "top" to refer simply to the penetrative partner (and, conversely, the "bottom" is the partner being penetrated). Some people broaden the term "top" to refer to the person who administers a form of stimulation, be it penetration, a spanking, oral sex, or a flogging (again, the "bottom" is the partner upon whom the stimulation is administered). Others still use "top" interchangeably with the term "dominant." In many BDSM communities, it is, at best, a faux pas to use these terms as synonyms, but lots of people, BDSM-affiliated or not, do it anyway, so I'll assume you might be, as well. In that case, "top" can refer to the partner who has the authority in a power-exchange relationship. In this last definition, the power-exchange might exist all the time (in the BDSM community, this is often referred to as "living/being 24/7," meaning that there is a dominant partner and a submissive partner or partners who remain in those roles through all activities – mundane and sexual alike), or it might be reserved for only sexual activities. In any case, the relationship should be one agreed to by all parties, a consensual situation that is, ultimately, pleasurable (in some sense) for everyone involved. In all of these definitions,



some people identify strongly with their role as "top" or "bottom" and have no desire to switch, which brings me to my first tip: Talk to your partner about it first! Not only is talking about it very SOPP, but it's important to know if your partner is comfortable being the "bottom" or having you function as the "top." Maybe it's something you are interested in, but how does she feel?

If you and your partner decide you want to switch up the roles, it's time for you to think about how that's going to work. You need to figure out what you want and what your partner wants. Ask your partner what activities she wants to experience as a "bottom." Decide if their will be a power-exchange involved in the relationship. If so, what might that include? A good way to generate these sorts of ideas is by reading erotica. I am a fan of Tough Girls: Down and Dirty Dyke Erotica by Lori Selke (editor). You can search Google for other titles that might be more appealing to you and your partner. Be forewarned, however, that some of the stories might be shocking, disturbing, or simply unappealing to you or your partner, and especially if either of you is a survivor of sexual assault or close to someone who is a survivor, you should proceed with caution.

Once you've generated ideas, you

might still be a little intimidated by acting on those ideas. It can seem especially daunting to accept the responsibility of being a top. I can't possibly advise you adequately in this short column, so I will refer you again to some books: The New Topping Book by Dossie Easton and Janet W. Hardy is an excellent resource. You can also check out The New Bottoming Book by the same authors. Both of these titles were sold in the Antioch bookstore at one point and might still be there. Peruse a queer bookstore (try Columbus) or the internet for other useful books and resources.

Next, make sure you have the necessary skills. If your partner wants to be whipped, and you've agreed to it, but you've never picked up a whip (other than the foamy sweet ice cream topping) before in your life – DO NOT DO IT. Seek out classes (try The Chamber in Columbus' Short North District – they sometimes offer Sunday workshops), individual instruction (Craigslist, maybe?), or simply choose a new activity. It is extremely important to know what you're doing to another person's body, whether it's fisting, back massage, or somewhat riskier activities. When in doubt, don't do it. What's worse than broken bones from sex gone wrong? Explaining it to your mother when she gets the bill.

Most importantly, be confident. Choose activities and scenarios that you feel comfortable with so that you can be confident in your execution. Confidence is the most important trait a "top" can exhibit. It helps your partner feel safe and it helps you assert yourself in your role.

Good luck and have fun! If you need any more help, you know I'm here for you.

Lusting for you,
Levi B.
ecowperts@antioch-college.edu

Pillow Talk at Antioch

Alumni on how the college brought them together

We met on our first official day as Antiochians in September 1984. Jeff was sitting on the upper level walkway between the kitchens of Mills when Lynda pulled up behind the dorm. A warm hello and some help carrying Lynda's belongings to her room was the first of many moments we would spend together that Fall. Our attraction to one another was immediate, spending the day together talking and laughing into the evening and on into sunrise. We discovered and cemented a deep friendship during that quarter, all while miraculously managing to keep our young hormones (mostly) at bay. There were obviously enough tell-tale interactions and lengthy massages exchanged in the human habitrails of the Mills TV room to get rumors flying; we were immortalized in a multi-panel cartoon called "Mills Street Blues" which showed up in a few places around campus. According to a few sources, our unrequited lust was considered legendary at the time, but we kept it platonic and said goodbye that December as our Antioch schedules sent us our separate ways until the following Fall quarter of 1985.

Back on campus, we reveled in a few intense



weeks of romance until Antioch once again got in the way when Jeff left for a coop that lasted nearly 18 months. When we found each other on campus in 1987, our lives had changed and as we both left Antioch, we said goodbye for what we thought would be the last time. Seventeen years went by with no contact, each of us living our separate lives on opposite coasts. That all changed with one email in May 2004. Lynda had been living in Italy and

emailed a mutual Antioch friend when she came back to the states. Scarlett replied that she had just talked to Jeff Wood that day. Lynda said "I want to talk to Jeff Wood" and got the contact info. The power of the internet fired up and Lynda's brief "I hope you are happy in the world" email to Jeff was quickly met with a reply, followed by two months of daily emails and then a summertime visit full of sparks and promise. From there we did the 3000 mile commute for a year, seeing each other nearly every six weeks until Jeff moved from Seattle to NYC in June 2005. A year later, after a March marriage blessing in Varanasi, India, we were married in our Brooklyn neighborhood. We had a parade through the streets led by an old Antioch friend's Balkan gypsy band and twenty more Antiochians joined us that day, celebrating with abandon. September 30th will be our first wedding anniversary and 23 years since we met and fell in love the first time.

The Antioch College experience can be enormously challenging to relationships of all kinds for many reasons, but it brought us together and gave us the chutzpah to take a chance, let go and grow, and then take a chance all over again. Viva Antioch College!

Jeff Wood '88 & Lynda White '88

Still with your Antioch sweetheart? Met your soulmate in Yellow Springs? Tell us your story at record@antioch-college.edu

They too were once young

Every week, an Antioch Faculty member remembers their College Years

Chris Hill- Associate Professor of Film

Where were you at age 20?

When I was 20 I was a psychology major at University of Michigan at Ann Arbor.

You wanted to be a psychologist?

I did actually do counseling, and I got a degree in psychology. I did an honors project that had to do with perception. After I graduated, I worked at a free clinic as a counselor and then I worked at a women's clinic. When I was in Michigan I worked in a women's crisis center. And at that time abortions were legal in New York but not in Michigan so if people wanted to get an abortion and had to travel to NY state, they called us and we'd talk them through the whole process.

So you were already an activist?

In that sense yeah. That was right



about the time when the women's movement was getting off the ground; I was drawn to the early women's movement in Ann Arbor.

When were your college years?

Between 1968 and 1973. When I went to MI, like two months after I arrived, the ROTC building was bombed, so there was a lot of activity on campus against the war in Vietnam; it was one of the major centers in the country for anti war activism, so there was a lot happening, which was kind of overwhelming. But I was more focused

on urban issues and class difference; I was against the war, but I focused more on women studies. I was from a working class family and when I got into college, it took me a while to get oriented to a world very different from the one I was used to.

What were your dreams when you were 20?

I was really interested in becoming a therapist. I was trying to figure out what that really meant. I had some idealized version of that. When I was 20 I realized that the culture and society that we find ourselves in has as much impact on peoples mental health as our individual personalities, so I think that was really important, recognizing that the individual is not isolated in his or her neurosis, but that they're in relative position within all the things contributed to the comfort or defensiveness or anxiety. So that was what I was learning when I was 20. The other thing was that Michigan was being critiqued around race at that time, not only was there a huge antiwar movement, but like Antioch, Michigan had just admitted a lot of students of colour. So I became very involved in theses issues, Then when I was 20 or 21, I dropped out of school

for a time. Because all of these issues were so pressing, I didn't know if it made sense to be in school.

Do you remember what your favourite book was?

The Structure of Scientific Revolutions, by Thomas Kuhn had a great impact on me. And I was reading a lot of Doris Lessing--the Golden Notebook.

What music did you listen to?

We listened to a lot of motown. Because I grew up in Cleveland, the most powerful radiostation was a mowtown station. So I listened to motown all through high school and then when I was in college, my roommates had grown up in Detroit with people who had involved in motown. And started listening to jazz, but I think I was more interested in art than than music.

Any movie that particularly moved you?

I worked in a movie theatre actually. Last Tango in Paris really affected me. And I saw the Olympiad and was completely blown away by that. I think I started watching old films then. I had never really thought about film as a reflection of culture before.

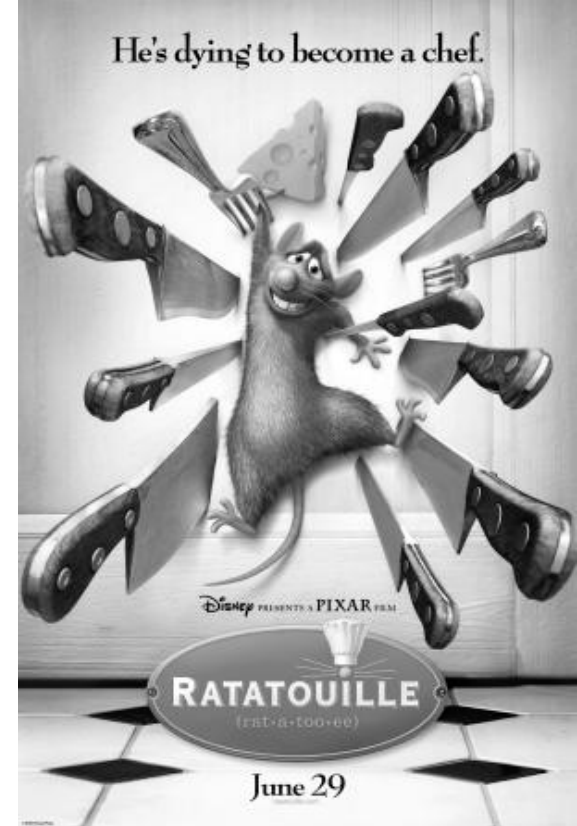
Mish's Movies

Ratatouille

By Marysia Walcerz

Ratatouille (helpfully spelled out phonetically on the movie posters, reminding us that yes, this movie is theoretically aimed at the under 10 crowd) follows the story of misfit French rat Remy, whose aspirations of becoming a chef are held back by his unsympathetic, garbage eating family. Destiny intervenes when a freak accident involving a shotgun toting grandmother and the Parisian sewer system lands Remy in the kitchen of his idol, the late Chef Auguste Gusteau. There, he teams up with the inexperienced “Linguini”, a garbage boy with similar dreams of chef-dom. The rest is director Brad Bird’s usual blend of sly wit, slapstick timing, and beautiful rendering. Beautiful rendering. I won’t subject you to the depths of my animation geekery here, but I will say that this is one of the most gorgeously animated films I’ve seen in awhile. What impressed me the most about this movie was the depth to which Bird was willing to layer the story. The black and white messages usually crammed onto every inch of screen time were notably greyer, and as a result what should have been a simple animated feature held a note of realism I’d be gratified to see in mainstream non-animated films. Despite a humbler story-line than his previous films (The Incredibles, The Iron Giant, and the wreck that was Cars) Bird retains a sense of pathos that comes across perfectly and sets Ratatouille apart from any other animated film produced this year.

I also have to throw out a nod to Pixar’s traditional pre- and post-film



animation sequences. The short at the beginning, “Lifted”, is worth the price of admission alone. Fortunately, you won’t have to pay it: [HYPERLINK “http://youtube.com/watch?v=Qs3FfayHBM8”](http://youtube.com/watch?v=Qs3FfayHBM8) <http://youtube.com/watch?v=Qs3FfayHBM8>. Watch that, then keep in mind the following 105 minutes only get better from there.

<i>Declassifieds</i>	Greer- Will you be my Eagle Lord? waiting, dangerous person.	Dear Jeanne+ Kim-Jenna. You guys aren't as cute as that David Bishkoff but I still love you guys very much. -The Record OB	Vanessa...You're my little cookie cutter...Let's go find some babies at Riverscape. [hearts]-You know who I am.
Beautiful Skies Beutiful people Beautiful Antioch	Phillip- Thank you for keeping me alive. I love you.-Dave	Gaby, Yer haircut is soo cute and I think yer the coolest babe ever.	A clique is a social prison meant to isolate and divide people. FREE YA'SELF FROM THE CLIQUE!
Julian- You inspire me to become a better community member	Jamilla, you owe me a coffee date. Love, your coffee deprived friend.	Yoga and healing-Just ask Jack	BOT- When you're tired of screwing a community, give me a call. I like things "top down" if you know what I mean
Caroline Says... "I want a declassified" HERE IT IS. MAN! PS I can still kick your ass. Again. [heart]	GET CRUNK!!! Maclean-you're going down! [heart] -someone that didn't put a door in front of your door	Nicole, thanks for being great. move to minneapolis with me [heart] Rory	May-Trai, Hey bay-bay You cray-cray Let's go schway-schway, love-Tay-play
Even though you never write me any declassifieds I still love you. -Lonely but loving in Pennel	Bob Devine for President! (again)	Soup- Thanks for being my bro-siff. I love you. -Bloody Stumps.	I have a crush on Toni Murdock. Feeling Guilty, ToniLuva2000
David Bishkoff, yer the dreamiest	Seems like Andrzej has something to hide	Cody Canoodle, you are the best and the grossest. thanx 4 x-mas lights.	BOT you suck!
Bob+Scott are so extremely witty HOW DO THEY DO IT?!	Rachel Sears, Amber, Diana... I love you all! -Emma Woo	Dea, Thank you for leaving sweet messages on my door. You're beautiful. [hearts]	Dear Antioch, My love for you is unconditional. While I feel we can no longer be intimate, I still think you're cute! Love-Dusky
A Miller-Being in love means are completely broken. Songs: Ohia	Hey boots, you are so rad. Let's be friends. -Girl with the guns	Carobot, you try my circuits	PS. No hard feelings
Carlin-Love You Always.	Ceci-face, I'm glad you're my 'across the hall' buddy! Love, -the girl w/ the lobster	James- Hey hot stuff. You and me, babies, five years. -Dave	

Horoscopes

By Marysia Walcerz

Aries- That squirrel you nearly ran over on your bike last week hasn't forgotten your face. Watch your back.

Taurus- Your rich uncle dies and you inherit \$500! Unfortunately, no one in town accepts Monopoly money.

Gemini- Your soul mate will make another attempt to contact you this week. Make sure you're paid up on your SMS service.

Cancer- Your pack a day habit will finally come back to haunt you as you're kidnapped by scientists who want to isolate your "cool" gene.

Leo- That weird feeling in your stomach isn't the same indigestion everyone else is getting. See about getting x-rayed, though a good black light would work just as well.

Virgo- Like the sands in the hourglass, so will flow the hours between 11 AM and 8 PM on Friday.

Libra- Your life-long dream of starting a radical sticker business will take off when you discover that you can produce a sticky, web-like substance from your tongue.

Scorpio- Ignore any and all dream messages you receive this week. Kurt Cobain didn't even give out good financial advice when he was alive.

Sagittarius- The voices will leave you this week, directly after you finish laser treatments for getting that strange growth behind your right ear removed.

Capricorn- Avoid small children on bicycles this week- you'll have enough bruises after the accident on Wednesday anyways.

Aquarius- Your social life will really pick up this week after your room is declared "No Man's Land" in the campus-wide game of Capture the Flag.

Pisces- The stage is set for your life to change dramatically. Sadly, you're not on till Act 5, and even then it's a bit part uncredited in the program.

All horoscopes are guaranteed accurate to the fullest extent of the law. If you feel your horoscope is in error, please contact Mish in Mills 219 for a complete refund.

Question of the Week

With James Thomas Robertson the Ninth

Why was Steve Fired?

"Because he is a shape shifting lizard"
Bryan, 3rd year



"He signed a multimilliondollar contract with NBC to make a situational comedy show"
Carobot, 2nd Year

"He wasn't fired, he 'resigned'"
Rachel, 3rd Year



"Toni Murdock tried to control his body, but when it stopped working they disposed of it"
Kelsey, 2nd Year

"The voodoo doll stopped working"
Meghan, 4th Year



"He was having an affair with Tom Haugsby"
-Glory

Forced Resignation, Unconsulted Replacement Bring Wide Protest

Faculty Question College-University Relationship

By Ed KOZIARSKI

Until a few days ago, a black flag hung from the home of Ruth Carey and former Antioch College President Jim Crowfoot. The flag was not a call for anarchy, as it often represents. It was, rather, a quiet protest of Crowfoot's sudden and widely contested forced resignation August 13.

Crowfoot's resignation was called for by University Chancellor Al Guskin and some members of the University Board of Trustees' Executive Committee, including Chairman Bob Krinski and former Chairman Malte vonMatthiesen. Crowfoot and all parties involved in the decision have mutually consented to remain silent about the details of the resignation. In absence of an official explanation, speculation has variously attributed the ouster to the College's continuing financial difficulties, including a \$600,000 deficit for 1995-96, political conflict with Guskin, the ambiguous relationship between the positions of President and Chancellor, and numerous other potential factors.

August 15, again in an executive decision without consultation with AdCil or Community members, Professor of Communications Bob Devine was appointed interim College President. Devine accepted the position, and called for the instatement of Professor of Political Science Hassan Nejad in the new and temporary position of Executive Vice President.

In yet another executive decision, Guskin and top Board members approved the creation of the position. Nejad insisted (unlike Devine), that he would accept the appointment only with AdCil's approval. AdCil approved Nejad unanimously.

While Devine did not seek Community support before accepting the Presidency, Nejad lauds him for taking on the role, saying it assured that an outsider would not be brought in by the Trustees to take the job.

Some faculty say the fact that Devine did not insist on Community approval for his appointment may undermine his effectiveness.

"I would be hard-pressed to understand it Bob could understand himself to enjoy the full confidence and authority of the Community," says Professor of Cooperative Education Tom Haugsby. "If this is the way we do business around here, then self-governance is much less important."

Community response to the wave of

decisions was dramatic and diverse.

Faculty in particular have raised objections to the Board and the Chancellor's increasingly active role in the affairs of the College. While they have not reached agreement about an appropriate response, many faculty believe some response is necessary to assure that they are consulted in the future.

"I think it's a wake-up call to the faculty that we need to take a more aggressive role with the Board, making our concerns known," says reference librarian and Faculty Executive Committee co-chair Jan Miller.

"This can't happen again. You can't make decisions that have this kind of effect on everyone, on enrollment on retention, on morale, in isolation, and just say 'sorry, we did it because we're allowed to do it, and we can't give you any reasons.'" Faculty Executive committee sent a letter to the trustees September 11 condemning the process of the decision on several grounds.

The secrecy around the decisions, an increasingly common practice in the business world, has been particularly frustrating to Antiochians, who have traditionally embraced participatory self-governance.

Some argue the secrecy is inappropriate and suspicious, others accept it as legally necessary. It is the authoritarian nature of the ouster and appointments that is more widely objected.

Some faculty have called for a censuring of the Board and/or Guskin as a protest of the process by which decisions were made. Censuring is a vote of no confidence by the faculty, a rarely-used gesture of dissatisfaction with University leadership. This is a symbolic gesture, whose impact is uncertain, but which would clearly articulate the faculty's position to the Board.

Other faculty members argue that censuring the Board and the Chancellor would be an ineffective gesture. Associate Professor of Psychology Dan Friedman favors more serious measures. Friedman contends that the faculty ought to "put the

Board on notice." He calls for a plan under which faculty would agree to walk out should the Board again make such fundamental decisions without consultation - a sort of "behavior contract" with the Board.

Objectors take pains to distinguish between the content and the process of the decision. While opinions vary widely about the appropriateness of Crowfoot's removal, most Community members express support for Devine and Nejad.

"If AdCil were consulted before the decisions were made, they might very well have reached the same conclusion," Haugsby says. "Or, if asked to find a suitable replacement among themselves, they might have selected the same individuals."

Still, in the eyes of some objectors, this does not make the nature of the decision any more excusable. And on a human level, many object to the way the situation was handled insisting it had been unduly inconsiderate and potentially harmful to Crowfoot.

THE BUDGET FREEZE

Three weeks before Crowfoot's resignation, the University Vice Chancellor Glen Watts placed a budget freeze on all College departments, requiring Watts' approval of all expenditures, down to the copying of course syllabi.

This came shortly after the implementation of a College budget freeze by Crowfoot and

College Dean of Administration and Finance Barb Stewart. According to Budget Assistant Mark "Sol" Solomon, the College freeze was ineffective in curtailing spending.

The College budget freeze was not articulated with the same explicitness, or the same force, as the University freeze. People just went right on spending." The University budget freeze was proclaimed a measure to avoid the repetition of the '95-'96 deficit.

The largest part of the \$600,000 deficit was attributed to much smaller Annual Fund revenues from undirected bequests. These are relatively small donations left in the wills of alumni and other donors. But far fewer of these donors died that was predicted, and revenues came in at

\$240,000 less than projected. (This year's budget makes much smaller projections for this revenue source). Another chunk of the deficit has been attributed to the conversion from coal to more-expensive natural gas in the College's power plant.

Many faculty found the budget freeze a gross impediment to their work, and an overstepping of the University's prescribed relationship to the College.

Miller suggests that the timing and execution of the budget freeze may have been a deliberate maneuver to pave the way for Crowfoot's resignation three weeks later.

"Because it happened the day after he went on vacation, you can't help but wonder or believe that it was done to sully his ability to run things," she says. "It's pretty powerful when the finances are taken out of the hands of the President. At the very least it makes people doubt the ability of the President to function in his job."

Former President Crowfoot Responds to Resignation

Dear Students,

Until early August when the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees suddenly requested that I resign, I was planning and looking forward to the coming academic year and to working with you as well as the faculty, staff, alumni and donors of the College. When I resigned August 14, the following statement was agreed to by representatives of the Board, University, and myself:

"James E. Crowfoot has resigned today as President of Antioch College. The Board of Trustees has accepted his resignation with appreciation for his contributions over the two year period of his presidency.

"Alan Guskin, Chancellor Antioch University will appoint a successor on an acting basis, until a permanent successor is named.

"Under Crowfoot's leadership the College has adopted new faculty personnel policies, has revised its curriculum, has changed its academic calendar to better align it with its co-op work-study program and has fine tuned its controversial Sexual Offense Prevention Policy. All of this has taken its toll on the various constituencies in the faculty, administration and the student body.

"Further, during the past year, the College has recieved a major three year grant from the MacArthur Foundation that will provide flexible funds to help secure its on-term future. As part of this planning effort for the future, the Board has established a Task Force on Strategic Directions of the College. In this regard, the Board has expressed its desire for new leadership at this juncture. Crowfoot regrets that he will not have the opportunity to work with faculty, staff, students, and alumni in further developing the changes in the College."

Because of this sudden and unexpected change, I was unable this summer to begin working with volunteers on a needed College policy aimed at preventing racial harassment and reducing racism. I am sorry not to be able to keep the promise I made last Spring to the Antioch Community to begin collaborative work on this much needed policy and related efforts to implement the policy.