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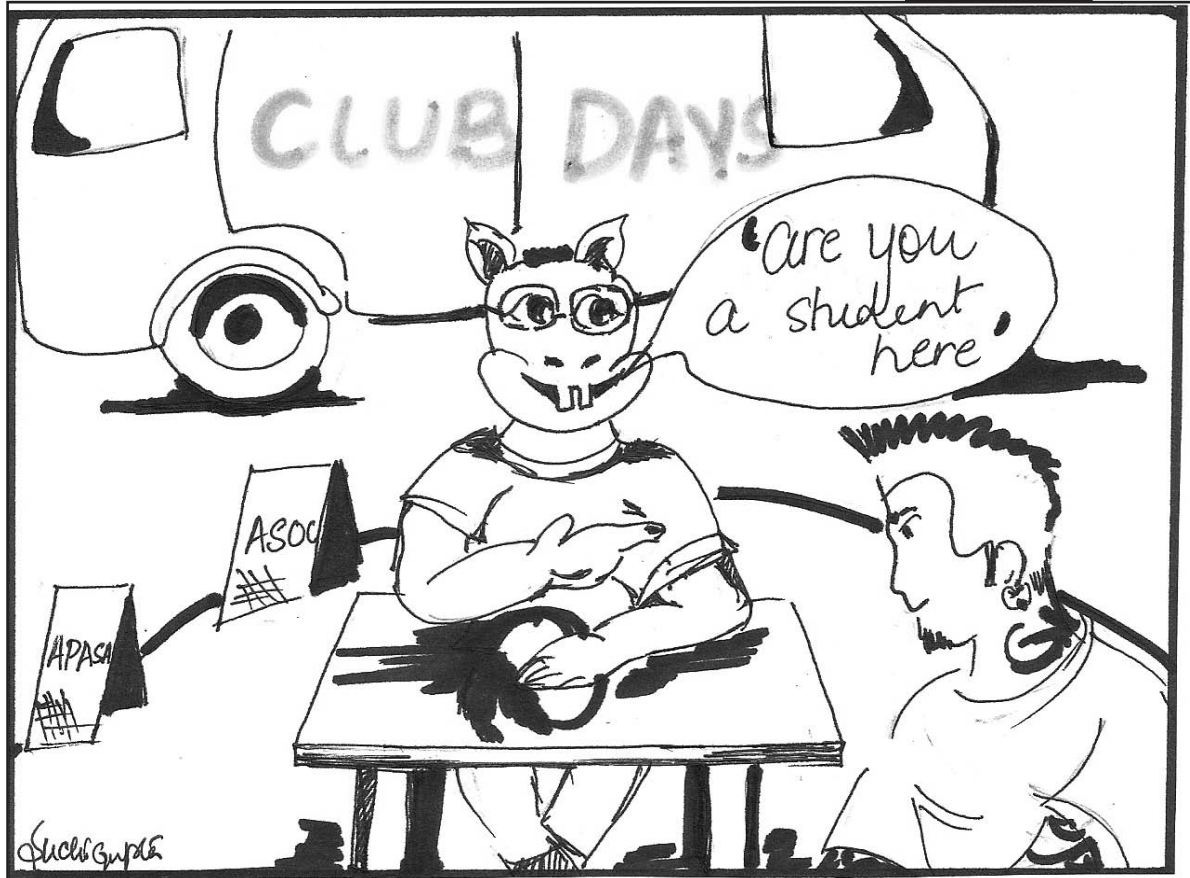


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OPINION

Readers weigh in on free speech at Ohlone

Conservatives do not deserve free speech

DEAR EDITOR:

There was an opinion piece in your Sept. 18 issue entitled "Appreciate Free Speech." I had to read it twice before I realized that it wasn't sarcastic.

The author goes into great detail on how there is a witch-hunt like attack focused on those people on campus with a conservative ideology. He claims that conservatives' right to free speech is not being respected. He even points out that groups like the KKK, and NAMBLA deserve the right to voice their opinion, and he is correct on both accounts.

This is where it gets interesting. Because if the conservative students have the right to say that gay people

don't deserve the same human rights as they do, or that torture is perfectly acceptable, then I have the right to tell them that they are ignorant bigots. Free speech means that you can say whatever you want without consequences from the government, but it doesn't say that you can say whatever you want without consequences from me.

Now normally if someone wants to spout off ignorant ridiculous ideas like "astrology is a credible science" or "there was a man who walked on water and raised people from the dead," I will leave those people to their beliefs.

However, the author makes another point. He says the worst abuse of conservatives' right to free speech is when they are a "captive audience" to liberal ideals such as students in a classroom with a liberal teacher. He even gives the example of how some liberals wanted "God"

taken out of the Pledge of Allegiance because the students were involuntary participants. But amazingly his response to those liberals is that if "You don't like it? Don't say it." Finally, some common sense from this guy, if he weren't so hypocritical about it.

Liberal students as well as teachers are so aggressive and intolerant toward their conservative counterparts because we are involuntary participants of a war that started on a lie. We are involuntary participants of selling off the economy to the highest bidder and then stealing \$1 trillion from us to pay for it.

It is not that conservatives shouldn't be tolerated it is that they must not be tolerated. We cannot tolerate another four years, let alone another minute of the scum that is the Republican Party.

So to all you sane, caring individuals out there (i.e. liberals), the

next time you come across a conservative take their "free speech" and make them pay for it!

Kelsey Bloom

DEAR MR. BLOOM:

Your stance is self-contradictory. You state that you also support the right for radical groups to have the right to voice their opinions, yet at the same time, it is clear that you believe conservatives are to be punished for speaking out to support their views.

For any political group to create an oppressive environment to silence the first amendment right to freedom of speech is unethical. Simultaneously, the free speech of others is to be nonviolent and as nonintrusive as possible. We are guaranteed a forum to our voices, not a gladiator's stage.

If you or anyone feels that they are an involuntary participant in the governing system, then your right to vote is the tool of choice. Silencing an opponent or "making them pay," outside of governmental regulations does not support argument credibility.

Undoubtedly somewhere in SoCal is a patriotic liberal who feels that they are suffocating under the watch of an overwhelmingly dogmatic and oppressive conservative learning community. They too have the right to speak freely.

Sincerely,
Brian Chu
Opinion editor

Common sense

DEAR EDITOR:

The previous *Monitor* issue
Continued on Page 3

A request from your Hyman Hall staff: Be quiet

DEAR EDITOR,

At the English Learning Center on the second floor of Hyman Hall, we are here to serve all students. We are always glad to have any students in here who want to study, but we also have some rules.

The English Learning Center is a quiet study area. We have a lot of

students who are in self-paced lab courses or who have classes with a lab component who can only do their work here.

These students will be taking tests every day all semester long. Additionally, we have students who are being tutored and others who need to study quietly. If students wish to work together in a group they need to do so in one of our study rooms or at least talk very

quietly (library voices).

Also, our computers are for academic use only. Youtube, Myspace, Facebook, etc. are not appropriate uses for our computers. This semester we have once again been having problems with students not following our rules and being disrespectful towards ELC staff. We have had to call Dean Mikelyn Stacey in several times a week to help deal with the noise. Our lab coordinator Rakesh

Swamy has also had to deal with the noise, and we have even had to call in campus police for one particularly disrespectful student. The English and Math Learning Center Instructional Assistants have to deal with this noise problem all day every day.

Our dean, Mikelyn Stacey, has asked me to send this message to the ASOC and the *Ohlone Monitor* in hopes that perhaps you can help

us out with this in some way.

Any ideas? Somehow we need to convey to our student body that the second floor of Hyman Hall is a quiet study area, not a hangout, and that those who wish to use it need to behave as if they are in a library.

Thanks,
David Wood
ELC Instructional Assistant

CAMPUS COMMENT >>>

What was your favorite part of Club Day?



Justin Daco
NURSING
"The APASA Club. It was nice to see fellow Asian Pacific students."



Bernadete Ong
PSYCHOLOGY
"ASL. It's nice to see a community helping a lot of students here."



Janet Aviles
HISTORY
"I liked the music and carnival theme."



Gabby Castillo
SPEECH AND COMMUNICATION
"There were more clubs and colors this year, very entertaining."



Yandira Antezang
MARKETING AND COMM
"I thought it was really weak. I was expecting more to be done."