Bush, Blair, Buckley Are Left-Wingers?

I refer to the letter by Rush Oster ’61 (“Honorary Degrees—Where is the Political Balance,” Colby Magazine Summer 2015) suggesting left-wing bias in the selection of Colby honorary degree recipients. One notes that over the years commencement speakers have included such dangerous radicals as George H.W. Bush, Bob Dole, Tony Blair, William F. Buckley Jr., and chief executives of such subversive organizations as Barclays bank and IBM. In the interests of diversity, perhaps Colby’s Board of Trustees might consider inviting the likes of David Duke or Tom Metzger to instill idealism in future graduating classes.

Peter N. Grabosky ’66
Canberra, Australia

A Geography Nerd Weighs In

As a follow-up to Peter Roy’s excellent comment about quads in the Summer issue, I must point out that West Quad and East Quad are both geographically misnamed. The two buildings are not aligned in an east-west direction; instead they are aligned in a north-south direction. Thus, East Quad should actually be called North Quad, and West Quad should actually be called South Quad. Yes, this is the sort of thing that geography nerds like me pay attention to.

Gregory Naigles ’15
Concord, N.H.

A Plan for the Information Age

Peter Agelasto’s thought (Eyeing Past, Present, and Future,” Colby Magazine Summer 2015), that an ancient flute and other important items uncovered during his archaeological dig would help scholars learn more about the Mayan civilization if they were not locked away, was brilliant. Why do we unearth things just to put them into boxes in museum or university basements? How can we learn from the past if we don’t know where to find it? And how can we build on that information—regardless of the source or form such new information takes—if we have no organized system for doing so?

Professor Thomas Longstaff’s message about preserving “articles in context” and Agelasto’s dedication to creating a way to do just that are truly inspiring, and so important for us and for future generations.

Betsy Roberson Gibson
Boston, Mass.

Let Alumni Enjoy Bryant, Too

I just read Professor Bryant’s piece “Of Blue Jays, Mockingbirds, and (Atticus) Finches” (Colby Magazine online, Summer 2015). I felt a pang of jealousy that I cannot enroll in his course this spring. It also made me hope that Colby might begin to offer an online course, lecture, or even podcast for alumni.

Catherine Mongeon ’04
Washington, D.C.
Colby Conversation via Social Media
facebook.com/colbycollege
twitter.com/colbycollege

FROM FACEBOOK

On Professor Cedric Bryant and Harper Lee’s Watchman
Jessica Matzkin Shactman ’94 Prof Bryant... one of the many reasons Colby is the best.
Kate Drowne ’92 Professor Bryant: the reason I went into higher ed. And the reason I grade with a green pen.
Lisa Shear Shawn P’17 Couldn’t we figure out a way for Colby parents who still wish they were in college sometimes to take this??
Jenna Klein Jonsson ’97 Oh, how I would love to audit this class! Cedric Bryant was an amazing professor.

On Tony Corrado’s National Commentary
Jen Milsop Millard ’90 One of the best professors at Colby—great to see him shine each election period!

On Robert Gastaldo’s Mass Extinction Story
Deborah Spofford Churchill P’17 This is MY KID! And some other people that might or might not be important.

On the Rejuvenated Colby/Waterville Partnership
Tanya Cheff P’18 This is wonderful! So glad President Greene is fostering the relationship between Colby and Waterville.
Connor Tubridy ’08 These are great ideas. Happy to see Colby get more integrated into Waterville. Miss it up there.

Lisa Watson-Frederick P’18 Proud to be a Colby mom!!! Thank you Colby for your commitment to young people wherever they are from!!!
Jen Dunfee Wow! My 4th grader will definitely be setting his sights on Colby!!

FROM TWITTER
@JennyBoylan: I dreamed of @ColbyCollege’s Charlie Bassett, gone 4 years. I was lucky to be his friend, lucky to dream of him.

On Professor Lydia Moland Addressing the Class of 2019
Anna Fan ’15 What a GREAT speaker to welcome the Class of 2019!!!! Lydia is the best, seriously ... I already miss being in her classes.
Griffen Allen ’16 You won’t have a better professor at Colby!
Kris Miranda ’09 Lydia always saw the best in us, even if it wasn’t there yet. The Colby College Class of 2019 should count themselves lucky.

On the Colby Commitment to Student Access
Alan Yuodsnukis ’91 So proud of my alma mater! As a high school teacher in a poor, rural Maine district, it’s hard to overstate how pleased I am to read this. This will create opportunities for my students that may not otherwise be available to them. Thank you, thank you, thank you!
Linda Iverson P’16 As a teacher in Lewiston, I was thrilled that my daughter was accepted to Colby—this is a 100% need school—it isn’t free—but it is reasonably priced for us. So grateful and blessed to have Colby in our lives.