

Letter to the Editor

Editor,

Had your reporter, Mary Grounds, made an attempt to contact me before submitting her irresponsible hit piece to The Summit concerning the present debate on campus regarding affirmative action, she would have learned that my satirical note to the faculty last spring responded to what I considered a racist letter to Dean Lois Knowlton (part of which Knowlton wrote herself from a particular campus group.

As a member of President Sanchez's Committee on Diversity, I have agreed to refrain from participating in general campus dialogue concerning affirmative action and its uses and abuses until the committee has agreed to issue appropriate statements relative to its charge of investigating affirmative action programs in hiring as practiced here.

Nonetheless, Ms. Grounds' inaccurate, incompetent, incoherent, and incomplete article prompts my public revulsion of her report.

Aside from her confusing Curtis Stevens with Tom Bell and her using the word resilience rather than resistance, she accuses President Sanchez of challenging himself and misquotes Vice President Peter White's response concerning the Fifth Circuit Court's

Hopwood (not Hackwood) opinion.

The real clincher, however, comes in her stating that I accused Dr. Sanchez "of degrading an applicant pool if one applicant had Hispanic blood." I accuse Mary Grounds of writing absolute rubbish. I did not make—nor even thought of making—such a scurrilous, muddled remark; I demand a retraction and an apology.

Finally, had she reported my answer—though I have no reason to believe that she'd write my remarks accurately—to Michael Golden's accusatory and grandstanding question to me toward the end of the meeting, the article would have included my comment that illegal and immoral hiring has been practiced in the name of affirmative action, a two-edged sword that can return us to those days when white males were hired over other qualified applicants simply because they were white males.

To such a time I have no interest to return. My record in serving on several hiring committees for the English Department long proves my commitment to fair and equitable employment.

-Peter G. Bradley,
English Instructor