

Advice from a pro

Isn't it funny how you only find what you've been looking for when you need it the least? Take this editorial for example. What I'm really looking for is twenty-five hundred words to fill eight to ten pages, and instead I've found the five hundred to fill an editorial.

Ahhhh. Procrastination.

I know I'm not alone. Stumbling to class I see that dazed look in people's eyes which poets mistake for lusty spring fever, and students recognize as "I've-Got-A-Paper-Due-Yesterday" anxiety. And chances are, if you're reading this, you too are putting off writing a term paper.

To ensure that reading the year's last issue of the Gazette is informative as well as entertaining, I've come up with some suggestions of what to do when your paper is due yesterday and you're too stressed to write.

1. Ask for an extension.

The key here is to be aggressive. So what if the paper is already late and you've had eight months to do it? You're a busy person. Start the bid off at mid June, just to show your professor how very busy you really are. In the unlikely event that your prof believes assigning a paper in September 1993 should give you ample time to rearrange your schedule, see option #2.

2. Ask for an extension and lie.

The death of a loved one is always a good excuse, but make sure it's appropriate. Moms and Dads are poor choices. Besides having to fake mourning a good three to eighteen months, it might be hard to explain the presence of your dearly departed at your May convocation. The death of a great aunt or a cousin more than twice removed does not usually warrant an extension. Grandparents are probably your best bet.

3. Fake it.

Don't hand in your paper. When you receive an F, confront your professor and demand an explanation.

"Of course I passed in my paper! Would I really be brazen or stupid enough not to pass it in and then stand here asking for an A?"

There are several variations to this technique such as leaving only the title page in your professor's mail box. Or if you're really on the ball, maybe the first two or three. By the time your professor apologizes for losing most of your paper, you should have it finished.

4. Hire a professional.

The professional would not be responsible for writing your paper, just printing it off. By adjusting the margins, font size, line and word spacing, five hundred words could fill eight type written pages. Ensure your professional doesn't go overboard. Anything less than six lines per page might make your prof suspicious.

5. Write the damn thing, hand it in and hope for the best.

By far, this is probably the best advice I can give you. Not that the other suggestions aren't good, it's just that most professors were once students too. It's unlikely that you could pull off a scam that they hadn't pulled off themselves.

There is an up side of having a prof who was once a student. Most of them know what it's like to be punctually challenged.

In the event that you do get an F, don't worry. If a university degree can't get you a job, why would an A?

Cheers.

Judy Reid



"CRUCIFY ME? HA HA! GOOD ONE! APRIL FOOL'S, INDEED..."



LETTERS

The Dalhousie Gazette welcomes letters to the editor. Letters should not exceed 500 words in length and should be typed and double-spaced. The deadline for letters is Monday 4 pm before publication. Letters may be e-mailed or submitted on Macintosh or IBM-compatible 3.5" disk.

Best and worst

community living could be achieved without social climbing and posturing provided more useful lessons than any pizza crust could.

Laurie Kinsman

having an opinion without being told what I should be thinking.

Christian Rose

To the editor:

I recently read Steve Tonner's article on the joys of residence life. I remember many good times I spent and great friends I met in my three years of residence in Howe Hall. Residence life truly is convenient, conducive to building long-lasting friendships and a character-building experience I would recommend for anyone's kid.

But now that I've been 'on the outside' for six years, I sympathize less and less with Mr. Tonner's sighs of 'those were the days' and more with the fact that residence life was never exempt from the bastardizations of the real world that we have all come to despise. The same attributes that made residence a complete community unto itself also tended to magnify its detractions to the point that it became suffocating.

Obviously, when you put 500 people in close quarters for eight months you can expect some aberrations. But in a *Lord of the Flies* way, Howe Hall brought out the best in most and the worst in some.

While the somehow necessary, but sadly hollow, positions of government and security drew the interest of (and were awarded to) many competent students, there also seemed to be a recurring tendency to reward those with unwarranted influence, a facade of popularity, and most importantly, the innate ability to kiss ass. Sound familiar? Of course, hindsight is always 20/20 so I would be the first to admit I had onlooker apathy.

Applause and admiration is really overdue for the students who made (and make) honest efforts to better the residence community whether through a job, elected position or on their own time. The examples these people set are the memories that last.

While society doesn't always reward honest efforts, the students that proved

Thank BoG!

To the editor:

Now here is a sentence I never thought I would write. Thank goodness for the Dalhousie Board of Governors. It is about time that someone stood up to the thought police of the political correctness movement. For too long these people have told us how to think, where to think, and who we can think about. I for one reject this notion as an unreasonable restriction on my intellectual freedom.

The BoG has voted down a policy that was far too vague. Is an English professor who reads "The Rape of the Lock" in class guilty of harassing the female students? When you extol the virtues of Israel are you harassing Palestinian students? Or conversely if you publicly support an independent Palestinian state are you harassing Jewish students? The policy was so imprecise it could have been interpreted in these ways depending on who does the interpreting.

Now don't misunderstand. I am not saying that no harassment policy is acceptable. However it is not the place of a university administration to decide what is harassment and what is not. The lawmakers of this country are those who should make such a decision.

I should address the possibility that the Gazette will now receive letters admonishing me as a racist or sexist or any other label you might choose. I assure the readers of the Gazette that I am none of these things and despite how the harassment policy could have been interpreted I am not harassing anyone. The one thing I am guilty of is

Gazette sexist

To the editor:

I was shocked and dismayed to read the title assigned to my letter in the February 18 issue — "Naked lunch". What was an attempt to raise people's awareness to the fact that breast-feeding is a natural and acceptable activity turned into a reaffirmation that society (including a reportedly non-sexist paper such as the Gazette) thinks that breast-feeding involved being naked. This was certainly a title laden with sexual connotations, which has offended breast-feeding women and other students.

It is my experience that breast-feeding women do not remove all of their clothes in order to feed. You may be surprised to know that often, the breast is not even visible to others. There are many discreet ways to breast-feed including nursing clothes with flaps and nursing blankets draped over the shoulder.

The more important point that needs to be made is that, contrary to the Gazette's belief, the breast is not a sex object. They are not designed for sexual activity but for infant feeding. When are people going to stop associating a woman's body with sex?

I guess the reason that breast-feeding on campus is seen as a controversial issue is that many people are still unable to face the fact that it is the natural function of the breast and does not fit within the context of the sexual hype apparent on campus.

I think it's time for breast-feeding women and students in general to take a stand on the more subtle sexism we face day to day.

Cynthia Peppard
4th year nursing

the Gazette

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