

Editorial

The opinions expressed in this column do not necessarily reflect those of the staff of this publication, or of the Student Union.

Higher tuition....GOOD?

This is not the typical response we hear on campuses these days; Maybe it should be.

I had the opportunity to hear a national journalist speak to a group of student journalist a few weeks ago. He was critical of student medias blind liberalism. Although student media follows very liberal ideals, too often they are followed without any critical thought. He used the idea of higher tuition to demonstrate this problem.

It is generally accepted that students want lower tuition and this is reflected in the university and college newspapers. Yet is lowering tuition in the best interest of students?

Hardly a jaw did not hit the floor when he said he was in favour of higher tuition. Then he explained his statement by taking a critical look at the current situation. As it stands now, 75% of every students tuition is paid for by the government through the taxes they collect. So it turns out that a low or middle income family, through the paying of their taxes, is subsidizing a student who comes from a high income family. So the lower the tuition, the greater the subsidy.

Instead of fighting for lower tuition, students should be fighting for sustantial tuition raises. With the funds the government saves from paying less of a students education cost, generous bursary programs could be set up to aid students who can not afford the higher tuition fees.

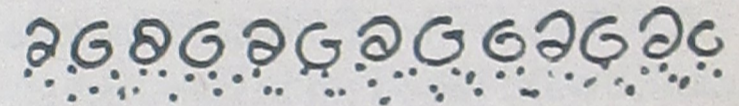
Under this arrangement, the students who can afford the higher tuition will be paying it, and the students who can not, will receive bursaries to help pay their cost and they would not be forced to subsidize a wealthy students tuition. This would ensure that those who can afford higher tuition will be paying for more of there education, while those who can not, will be subsidized by the government.

Weather you agree with this argument or not, it does bring up a line of thought that is seldom heard in campus papers or on campuses in general. This lack of critical thinking is an error that many students and student organization make. Without the ability to thing critically, we are condemned to follow only the generally accepted ideas.

Over the past year, most of the X-Press editorials have been attacked for my critical opinion of many popular student ideas. We should be taught at univer- sity to think more for ourselves and part of that process is being able to look critically at popular ideas. More critical thought is needed on our campus. Without it, we will forever hold only mainstream ideals, no matter how liberal they seem.

Higher tuition.....GOOD?
In critical condition,

Cory Large
Editor



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