

Editorial

BY BRODY MORRISON

The thought that a "Great Oral Tradition" is the cause for all this trouble, grief, and debate almost makes me ill. So the policy does not exist? Is this the part where I am supposed to look foolish? Well, I am sorry Dr. Heider, "Great Oral Tradition" does not cut it. You prevented students from access to public property on the bases of a verbal custom that does not exist. This is not acceptable. Your decision was not even based on a black and white policy.

Don't try and explain that this "Great Oral Tradition" has been in practice for several years. Most students, and faculty can easily see that this "tradition" is a distortion of the truth. This "tradition" can't be much of a tradition if companies and organizations can be overlooked. Is it fair to overlook one group and not another? If you would go through the logs of the organizations that have booked the Breezeway in the past, you will see that this "Oral Tradition" does not exist. How many commercial, special interest, and political groups have gone through the Breezeway? More than a few, I am sure. A lot more than just Island Tel, credit card companies, and a poster company.

Can you see what I am trying to say? Students just want to start a club, not a war. I understand that allowing one political group consistent, repeated, and steady access to the Breezeway shows political preference and is therefore wrong but explain to me how allowing a student club (political or not) access to an information table shows political preference?

This is a student run and operated club that is trying to function on campus. I don't get it. Students are financially supporting the university, but yet, these same students, group or otherwise, can be refused access to what they are paying for? Where is the reasoning in that? Do you realize that you are restricting a students right to have a club on campus, political or otherwise? No student should stand for this.

The use of The Barn as a means of solicitation, unfortunately, is not a viable option. This is evident when you consider that almost every student goes through the Breezeway once or even twice a day making it an excellent place for groups to hand out information. This small but little fact is the whole reason the Breezeway has been used the way it has for such a long time. I hope that I am wrong but time will tell.

On a final note, I must convey that this is an information table, not the golden fleece, and not only does it affect political parties but it affects student clubs as well as individuals, like it or not. This institution is a University, a place where free thought is supposed to be embraced, not persecuted. I request this policy to be stopped immediately. Keep in mind that I hold to what I say here to be truthful and I believe that it is something to be considered seriously. I know you are no longer developing this new policy and that it is now being developed with the Student Union. However, I was, nor any other group, contacted on our thoughts on the subject. Is that a proper way to develop new polices?

I implore students that share or oppose my views to send them care of "Brody Morrison" to Main Room 06 as I am curious to know what students have to say about this kind of student discrimination.

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