

Guest Commentary

Brevard sends wrong message in college brochure

by Richard Hartogs
Clarion Staff Writer

I have recently picked up a copy of the new Brevard College brochure. I find it appalling at how far the creators of it have stretched the truth.

In the brochure there is a question and answer section. The answer to the first question is completely wrong: "Q. I'll be staying at Brevard most weekends. Will I feel like I'm the only person on campus? A. Not at all! With 99% of Brevard's students living on campus and 60% living from hometowns more than 300 miles away, you'll have plenty of company. In fact, most students stay on campus on the weekends and take advantage of the wide

variety of activities available."

Now, when I read that in last year's brochure as I was driving down from my hometown (504 miles away in the Washington, D.C., area), I was happy to THINK that this joint was not a suitcase school. I was wrong about that. I am not doubting the statistics, but sometimes my roommate and I wonder where everybody went. I feel alone on the weekends. It makes me look forward to the weekdays. The only good thing about the weekend is that I can sleep for hours. I have only seen a few decent activities on the weekends, and they only last a few hours at most.

I realize that Brevard is trying to sell the college to prospective students, but please don't give them the wrong

idea. Often I feel that a year of my life has been wasted. Being alone has given me a lot of time to think, and I feel like I have learned more about life than ever before. That is because of all the negative things I have seen while attending Brevard. There are some good things about this place, but not many.

There is also a question about study abroad: "Q. Does Brevard have opportunities for study abroad? A. Yes! We have developed a semester in Austria program exclusively for BC students."

I'm not slandering the program, but for a perspective student interested in going, they should know that the trip is for second-semester students and that there are only ten positions available. Sure it's a program, but it's not worth

boasting about it as a good one.

Also, the brochure mentions that in between classes, one can go to Coltrane Commons to watch TV, catch a movie or live entertainment. Since when has there been live entertainment on campus during regular class hours at ten in the morning? I guess watching people cram for tests is fun to watch!

If some administrator has any feedback to this letter or answers to my questions, I would be happy to hear from them. You can write, either as a letter to the editor of *The Clarion* or to me personally, care of *The Clarion*, Coltrane Commons Mailroom, Brevard College.

Letters To The Editor

Knox willing to complain; is he willing to work?

Dear Editor:

I am writing in response to the letter by Michael Knox (PTK President; wow, I'm really impressed) who "questions the integrity of *The Clarion*."

Now, I don't know who he is, nor do I care. I am writing this to answer what you may have questioned. I am a reporter for *The Clarion* and I was not put up to this by the editors who work hard or by Brad Kimzey (*The Clarion* advisor) who also works very hard. I took this personally in a way. I know that I do a lot of work for *The Clarion*, as do the other reporters.

You are right, the recycling bins are filled with our newspapers. *The Clarion* prints articles on "BC Recycles;" hey, maybe the other students are reading the paper and helping out with the environment!

You wrote in your letter, "Yes, as usual you can tell we're in America...even our media complains of irrelevant social issues, but, as usual, we do absolutely nothing about them." Wow, what a contradiction of yourself. If you were aware, at the beginning of each semester *The Clarion* posts signs asking people if they would like to write for it. You still can. If you are so fed up with the repetition of it then drag yourself to our meetings (Wednesdays at 10 a.m.) and bring some new topics and ideas. We thrive on people who get involved and have ideas. Unfortunately, there are people who would rather complain than do something to change the problem.

As far as the professors, if they were not happy here than they would not be here. I think that the teacher feature is a great section. I like to know what my teachers are like, are interested in, and their educational background.

Look, Mr. President, it seems that you have spare time to write a letter to us, so I know that you can't use the excuse that you have no time. If you are fed up, why don't we just stop publication today, cancel journalism class for people that are interested in the field, and then the students will have no true way to express their opinions on campus. Will you be happy then?

The Clarion offers a great source for students like myself to the field. I don't want to knock PTK, but my journalism class is teaching me a lot more about life that your organization would.

I am not discrediting you for being in PTK but hey, more students read *The Clarion* than know what PTK is.

This is on behalf of my fellow staff

members who work into the early morning just so you can complain. Thank you for reading our newspaper and we hope you get your paper on your front door step.

Sincerely,
Richard Hartogs
J101 staff reporter

Clarion staff works hard to pull together your newspaper

Dear Editor:

I am replying to the letter by Michael Knox in the last issue of *The Clarion*. Mr. Knox, you need to learn a lot about hard work and commitment. How about if you, by your opinionated self, take over *The Clarion*. I am sure that you wouldn't mind devoting every other weekend until all hours of the

night to produce a better campus publication.

The Clarion has always been open to any ideas that the student body may have, but your words were asinine. The editors and staff spend some important time trying to satisfy people like yourself who do not know excellent work when it is in front of them.

Yes, the recycling bins are full after each issue, but there are people who do read and compliment *The Clarion*. People that don't at least look through the pages are people who just don't care about what's going on.

You won't get anywhere in life by criticizing other people's work. It is not all fun and games pulling the paper together. I hope you will look into a situation before you open up your mouth next time.

Sincerely,
Kelly Wright

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