Hosting the Great Minds

Over the past few months, certain groups at EMU have been discussing objectives for the future. What will it take for EMU to flourish in the future? they asked. The strategic plan they devised (posted on the EMU website) outlines various areas that the school hopes to strengthen and expand.

“EMU is committed to providing strong academic programs that prepare students to lead and serve in a diverse, rapidly changing world,” reads the statement. “EMU is committed to nurture genuine faith while enabling the mind to live in a spiritually diverse world.”

Last week, Colorado College (CC), a private liberal arts school in Colorado Springs, hosted a three-day forum for Sept. 11. Among the speakers were Hanan Ashrawi, a spokesperson for the Palestinian Authority (see Jamie Shaver’s “The Way I See It”) and Daryl Byler and Philip Yancey. But we also need to hear from Catholics and Muslims, military scientists and peace-makers. We do not want to lose the minds of today outside of the worlds of Mennonite Central Committee, Peace Corp, Peace Corps Volunteers and its affiliates. Letters to the editors are welcomed; the editors reserve the right to edit letters for clarity and space. Advertising is selective, with preference given to businesses that fit the campus. The Weather Vane is published weekly by undergraduate students of Eastern Mennonite University. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the university or its affiliates. Letters to the editors are welcomed, the editors reserve the right to edit letters for clarity and space. Advertising is selective, with preference given to businesses that fit the campus.

The Other 1 percent is sexual contact. What happens when you’re 40 years old and wondering what it would have been like to experiment with more people than your mate? Divorce rates soar and marriage counselors start getting more of your money. We are at an age when hormones are raging, but that is not a good reason to marry someone. Unless you’re interested in experiencing a mid-life crisis, full of questions about what life could have been like. Paul tells his readers who can’t control themselves to get married. That’s one part of the Bible I’m afraid I don’t agree with. Promising forever to someone is a big deal. I’m not comfortable making that decision with suppressed hormones, capitalizing the way I think. I know that there are a few people reading this who agree with my argument, but just can’t imagine themselves living outside the strict standards they’ve been raised to abide by. You’ll feel guilty because everyone will know and talk about you. I encourage you to decide what’s best for you and do it proudly. Better to be guilty now than regretful in 30 years.

“A” is for “Anybody”

Opinion: I'm glad the "A is for Anybody" attitude has reigned for their gen. ed. classes. I wish to incoming freshmen that any- thing is entered as first-class mail at the U.S. Post Office, Harrisonburg, VA 22802. Opinions: Almost as effective as an "I oppose Palestinian suicide- bombers" t-shirt. Fact: Some students have voiced concern that cars do not always stop at crosswalks around campus. Opinion: I will stop if you don’t. You can pause, sir! but don’t completely halt in your tracks, wait for me to approach, then look at me questioningly. Drivers do have places to go as well. Fact: In a recent Blackboard discussion, a majority of my class- mates supported ideas expressed by Fidel Castro claiming individ- uality is squashed in a consumer driven, capitalistic society. Opinion: I’m stealing this one from Jewish World Review columnist Thomas Sowell. "Socialism in general has a record of failure so blatant that only an intellectual could ignore or evade it.”

The Only Way to Know

I say date as much as you can; figure out what you like and don’t like, just make it known that you’re not looking to marry. There is a responsible way to have fun with members of the oppo- site sex, and people shouldn’t feel so guilty about it. The key is communication, making sure the person you’re dating understands why you’re interested in spending time with them. Would you be offended if someone told you they just wanted to see you because it fills time? Because you’re fun, but they don’t necessarily think the relationship will ever go any- where? I don’t what the psych- ologists say about 99 percent of a relationship hinging on com- munication. The other 1 percent is sexual contact. What happens when...