Civility needs to return to higher education

Aldemaro Romero Jr.

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Civil society returns to higher education

According to The Institute for Civic Engagement in Higher Education, “in the last 10 years, and even more so in recent years, students and faculty have become increasingly concerned about the role of civil discourse on campus — a concern that has manifested in protests, occupations and on occasion, violence.”

Is it possible that the rise of civic engagement on campuses is a cause for optimism, or has it simply become a new form of activism? For many, the answer is a resounding “yes.”

Dr. Aldemaro Romero Jr.
Letters from Academia

And it is not just words that can hurt. In more extreme cases, we have seen how some confrontations include threats of violence, sometimes with acts of physical violence. In these instances, there is an element of “fighting words,” where the words themselves are intended to provoke a response. In other cases, the physical confrontation itself becomes the message.

To understand this phenomenon, it is important to consider the role of civic engagement in higher education. The rise of civil discourse on campuses is not just about disagreeing without disrespect, seeking common ground as a starting point for dialogue and exchange, but also teaching others to do the same.

Coroner: Boy drowned in pool

BETHALTO, Ill. (AP) — The coroner in Madison County says a 5-year-old boy found under water in a Bethalto backyard swimming pool over the weekend has died. Preliminary results from an autopsy performed Sunday at Christiana Hospital in St. Louis confirm the boy was drowned.

Southern Illinois University Edwardsville’s second annual Cougars Unleashed Homecoming Run saw more than 300 participants. The run across SIUE’s expansive campus included:
5K Women’s Overall: Casey Gilliam from the School of Arts and Sciences at Baruch College-CUNY.
10K Women’s Overall: Bridget Wildschuetz
The run across SIUE’s expansive campus was first annual event,” said SIUE Alumni Association executive director Chris Cakes.

For the Intelligence

Dr. Aldemaro Romero Jr. is the Dean of the Commonwealth College of Arts and Sciences at the University of the District of Columbia.

“Fear not to go forward to grow and impress the Cougars Unleashed Homecoming Run, as it has now been established as a significant part of our SIUE Homecoming tradition,” Kehrer concluded.

For the Intelligence

Mural

Another concern that was addressed at the meeting was the fact that the mural and structure that would house the mural at the new public safety building will have to be moved. The Armitage Mural Committee is also discussing the possibility of finding something to save the mural. I think that 50 years ago, 2,200 plus Edwardsville residents put forward money to have this mural protected. I think that’s 50 years, or 50 years,” Morrison said.

“Like the concept, I really do. I think the question, and the next step, would be, ‘Where do we go from here?’” Morrison said.

Committee members also proposed acquiring a high digital resolution scan of the mural, digitizing the mural and creating a 3D model of the mural. The model could be used to show the public for a period of time what might happen to the mural if it is not saved.

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