

Taylor University

Pillars at Taylor University

Milo Rediger Writings & Addresses

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Talk to (Students) Faculty

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TALK TO (STUDENTS) FACULTY

Student unrest is universal and not all bad.

Some of the elements of student unrest we can do very little about.

But the quality of their educational experience we can do something about -
and we must!

They are highly knowledgeable, granted with many half-truths, when they
come to us.

We must be "equal" to them! No, we must be ahead of them -- and I'm
not sure we always are.

We have talked in the past about the sharply upgraded level of expectancy
which high school grads should meet when they come to the college campus.

Now we must consider the sharply upgraded level of expectancy we face
when we meet a new freshman class.

How well prepared for this are we?

First, let me say we are unprepared if assume that we need not change from
our best of 10 years ago. Let us not retreat into the false shelter of a changeless
God and eternal truth. Even the body of factual truth changes and shifts in its
inner relationships and in the manner in which various facets of truth apply to re-
flect upon contemporary experience. These students are not about to buy the old
pedestrian intro. courses we used to pawn off on them! Now if you disagree with

this and challenge it and write it off as part of the impudence of the dissident students of our time, you are not saying so much about them as you are saying about yourself. And it will be like the Biblical rock -- when it and you come together, you will not break it in pieces; rather, it will grind you to powder! Now, I'm not talking about giving up essential anchor points and guidelines; I'm talking about the necessary changes and improvements by which we can preserve and strengthen them in and for our time. So, get busy and improve your course outlines, if indeed there are to be course outlines; revise your teaching methods creatively to involve and challenge these students of our time. And so on!

My appeal is to go ahead now and explore and move ahead with the implications of what changes we have already made. Apply them now to the grassroots elements of our program - the courses, the requirements, the students, the articulation of people and mechanics. Otherwise, I predict that by 1980 Taylor University won't be here -- and not for lack of financial support!

Conclusion - our assets --

1. Uniqueness
2. Admissions appeal
3. Quality of our program --

I said we will defend tradition where it bears on essentials and will shatter it where it is for tradition's sake. So, get with it and shore up this 3rd asset!