

Teach-In Transcript: Q&A/ Discussion



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Amanda:..And it worked pretty well...Just saying, I'm an expert on everything, and I'm getting really tired. Taylor, hi. Please make an announcement. Ten seconds, I'm gonna time that bell.

Taylor: For all the students in the room, tomorrow, our Student Union meeting is happening at...7 o'clock? The Student Union meeting is happening at 6:30. And the planning meeting is at 5:30.

Lauren Gjessing, Class of 2017: In the Birch kitchen.

Greta: And the meeting is going to be in Sontag, probably, because there's a play in the Foundry.

Amanda: Can we write it up on the board, to make sure everyone gets that? So spread it around, okay? So you're the remaining few. It would be great if we had remembered to make that announcement earlier, but we have a lot going on. Tell five other people who you knew weren't here when the Student Union meeting is--What? Oh god, there's Facebook. Whatever! Grassroots organizing forever!

How are we doing it? Jane is going to tell you how we're doing it, because I've been hogging the microphone.

Jane: Okay, so, the main, there's two things, right? Number one is that you guys should all sit in these people's seats because they vacated them just for you. Except for you, Micah, you stay seated. [laughter] So we're going to walk a fine line between allowing our panelists to live lives outside of this one moment and this one room that they spend a lot of time in and having a really important conversation with each other.

So what's going to happen is we're going to take stack. And I will add you to the list of people who can ask questions. We're going to try to keep it to just, you know--I'm really tired of using the timer, so just employ upon yourself, like, brevity as like a very high standard you really love and want to keep in your heart...and we're gonna take questions. Please try to direct them at the whole group if possible but if you have questions for specific people,...it's useful to tell them that they're for them.

Amanda: And we're working in a twenty minute time frame so with panelists, there's a little bit of a time constraint probably on you still. So we'll just kind of feel that out. But we had twenty

minutes for this, so we'd like to stay within that, do you agree, do you think that's good? Okay. Yep, go ahead with your question.

2:30

John: Me?

Amanda: Yeah, you were like,

John: But I was wondering, I mean, like,..I was wondering if maybe one of the most important things that we could discuss is the series itself and the goals that it could possibly, well the various goals that it could, that it is pursuing.

Amanda: Well, I think it's a really good question, really what...

John: Taylor, would you want to talk about that? If you don't, then I'll just drop it.

Taylor: I actually missed your question.

John: Would you like to talk about the series, the teach-in series that this is the first one of...and the goals that...

Taylor: I think...No.

John: No? Okay, never mind.

Taylor: I think we can end with that.

John: Okay, that's fine.

Amanda: We can end with it, and I mean, John, reach out to Taylor and absolutely connect with anybody, anybody here.

All right, taking a stack. Work the stack. Reminding panelists work the stack too. You know, let's be mindful of each other, not running over each other.

Eric has a question...

3:49

Eric: Okay, so, I wanted to kind of respond to what Levi said at the end about--not to say that you're wrong--but about the fundraising side and sex.

And my experience in talking with alumni is that their biggest concern is that you're not having enough of it and that it's not as much fun as it was for them, so... [laughter]

So, I think there is a little bit of concern and misunderstanding about the SOPP. So that's real. That's very real. And it's difficult to convince people sometimes how sexy a word "yes" is, but they...but, in terms of alumni perception of...I think there's a worry on the part of administrators, that also is very real. And that's just because of the fragility of the College and they think that anything that might get a rise out of somebody might screw the deal, so to speak. So I just wanted to kind of clarify that.

5:10

Eros: The idea that the alumni are worried that sex just isn't as fun for us, just proves to me this axiom of Antioch that Antioch was always way better right before you got there, and literally every alumni will tell you that, and most will also insist that they were there for the golden age of Antioch. So, you know, just so you know...

Levi: I don't think I was there for the golden age of Antioch...[inaudible]... if I had been there in the 90s...Oh I wish I'd been. [laughter]

Amanda: Questions...directed at Jane, she'll put you on.

Jane: If you have the first question, you can just ask it. Or you can talk to me and I'll put you in this list. [laughter]

Amanda: You guys don't have questions?I am like, I don't even know what to do with myself right now. I am going to pass out. No, okay, go ahead, I'm good.

Elijah: Just to reiterate, we've got people who talked about the closure of the college, how the college was before, Nonstop and how the College Revival Fund parted from Nonstop and how Nonstop was closed...or closed. And then we have the restarting of the College, we have restarting governance after the College was open again. We have governance not being very forward...I just want to remind you all of some of the different things we talked about, so that we can maybe generate some questions if that helps you to remember.

Jane: Okay, I saw a hand from Rowan, so you're up.

Rowan: This is probably a naive question, but what the heck is that back there? I have no idea. I've been staring at it all night.

Jane: So, an unfortunate thing happened, which is that Casselli is a busy man with lots of responsibilities. And he is currently at the theater helping out with the play that is tomorrow, so he couldn't show you this amazing puppet...Does anyone want to take on the task of explaining this puppet?

Eric: That is...I guess you could call it a caricature of Dan Fallon, who was a Board member and...And it was present at a--I talked to Mike, you know, before the meeting--and he was going to talk about how that was present at a demonstration in front of Dan's office in New York. He's Officer of the Carnegie Foundation, so they were right on the block...

[Amanda says something, inaudible.]

Actually Dan did give some money to the College Revival at that time.

Eros: What we're, didn't...I can't remember, wasn't he one of the people who had wacky plans for what to do...with the campus?

Eric: I'm not sure what his plans were. He was not one of the arch villains. I think that he voted for the closure, but I think he continued to talk...

Hassan: He was on the negotiating team.

Eric: Ah, yes. On the University side of the negotiating team, so that was part of the reason why they were there protesting.

Timothy Grant, Class of 2018: So I have a couple, but...I only have one that [inaudible]. People said that...People said that, a lot of you guys said that the College was heartbreaking, and I know it's always hard to leave your friends and to have goals for something that doesn't really happen, but with the friend kind of thing, this happened in 2008, I feel like there was social media and things like that, you could keep together ... And then with you wanting the College to be successful and have a certain vision. Whenever you're working with other people, as a few of you have said, you're going to have to take, you know, compromise. So what exactly was it that made it, that made people so passionate about it? Was it the attachment that new people had, that old people coming in...or was it...do you understand what I'm saying?

Dennie: Who are you asking, who would you like to direct this to, just generally?

Levi: Can I take a stab at it? Do you mean in the years immediately leading up to the closure and during the closure? What about it made it more painful than just...?

Timothy: Yeah, so let's say a freshman comes in, he comes in, or she comes in, and there's money that's paid, and then it closes, it's hard because you've put this investment in, you've met people, now you have to go..What exactly made--you guys put a little more emphasis on it than just that, it was really heartbreaking...

Levi: So I have perspective on that, I don't know if I have the only answer. I don't know how students currently feel, or faculty or staff for that matter, about this institution, but I know that a feeling that was pretty prevalent when I was a student and when I was Community Manager, is that this was...Nobody thought of Antioch as their school. They thought of it very much as their home. For a lot of people it was the first and only place they'd ever felt safe, or that they could be themselves. And like, I still tell people that Antiochian is the most salient part of my identity. Above and beyond anything else, and even being a mother, and I love being a mother. Antiochian is who I am and I don't know how to explain myself to people any other way than that.

So there was not only, was this only was our home and our safe place being taken away. Not only was our identity being taken away in a lot of ways, but it was done in a really crushing way. I mean this toxic culture narrative, you cannot underestimate how demoralizing it was. That it isn't just, like, you know, things aren't working here. It was, "You, you are the problem. You with your swear words. You with the things you want to learn about. You with the people you choose to befriend and love, you, and all your friends, who--by the way--are your family and who you feel safe with. You and your faculty, who are the most brilliant people you have ever met and who blow your mind on a daily basis. You and the staff, who you are grateful cleans the shit out of your toilet. You are the problem and it is your fault."

I mean, it's really, I cannot, I mean for me, it's like...I mean, it's sad when a thing that you love doesn't work out. But this wasn't just a thing that you loved not working out. This was like, you, at your core, were not good. And you are being told that, and everything that you loved and were clinging to is being torn away. I mean that is how I feel, that is how I felt, and still how I feel in a lot of ways, obviously, because I just got really emotional about it. So that's my perspective.

12:41

Bob Devine: If I could add to that...A lot of the effort of closure was, we've got to get rid of faculty who are tenure because they cost too much. We've got to get rid of staff who are unionized because they cost too much. We've got to get rid of Levi, because she makes donors nervous. We've got to get rid of student culture that makes decisions because the inmates are in charge of

the asylum. We have to clean all those things out and make it--

And all of these things are labeled and lumped into this category called "toxic culture". And toxic culture is really the culture of 18 to 22 year olds for people who have no experience with 18 to 22 year olds, and are worried about it and are afraid of them, and worried about all of the things that happen on this campus.

At any rate...And that's, that's kind of painful because those were business decisions. They had nothing to do with lives, careers, studies, nothing to do with anything human. They had to do with business.

13:49

Eros: And a thing I'll say, I think I kind of brought up the common experience of heartbreak at Antioch. And Levi touched on this: the idea of uncomfortable space versus an unsafe space. Antioch is supposed to be an uncomfortable space. People spent four years feeling uncomfortable.

So some people walk out of that feeling very angry about the discomfort they experienced, especially people whose lives up until that point have been in comfortable safe spaces. Whereas you get the other people who are coming from incredibly unsafe spaces, and then finding a space that promises to be safe and oftentimes isn't. We talk about the way that straight white men feel excluded at Antioch--I noticed a big history of people of color, queer people, trans people, especially trans women, women in general, if they chose to be loud, they felt just as, they felt completely excluded, they felt completely unsafe. And so you had this space that was promising so much and failed to deliver for those people.

And as far as Antioch being an uncomfortable space, an uncomfortable space in which you reside for four or sometimes five, I mean at one point we were a five year college, and also we were a ten year, twelve year college for some people. That's a long time to experience discomfort, but that discomfort equals a lot of growth.

But when...as people became more angry about the direction that Antioch was going, resources were systemically removed from people and became harder and harder to access. And so, that discomfort, that questioning, when you're not provided the resources to heal from that, like when you go do something extreme with your body, like, exercise, if your muscles aren't provided the resources to heal and grow stronger, instead of growing stronger, they get weaker and discomfort turns into trauma. And that happened for very many people at Antioch. And then having it close was just kind of, like...

And, first of all, the closure by the way, that whole year was perforated by, "oh, it's not closing, oh it is closing, oh, there's hope, oh, there's no hope." Like, constantly back and forth. So you'd walking into Community Meetings knowing there was going to be a big announcement, your heart full of hope just to have it crushed again.

And then you'd walk into your moldy buildings, your Caf hours, which were cut incredibly. I remember one time because I was busy studying, I came into the Caf at the last minute, and the only thing that was left was an entire cherry pie and that's all I had to eat that day, because I didn't have any money, I was broke as shit, there weren't really spaces to cook because the kitchens available to students weren't there. I wanted to cry so badly that day, and instead I just ate my feelings in an entire cherry pie, and got very sick. But, like...It's hard to describe, everyone has difficult and painful experiences at Antioch, and that's important, but when you're not given

the resources to heal from that, again, becomes trauma. And that leaves you marked and nervous and afraid for a very long time afterwards.

Amanda: And just to say, the panelists you can use the stack also, so if you just want to raise up your hand and Jane will get you on stack. And, John, clearly on the stack.

17:30

John: So, me and Rose have talked about this a lot...about how particularly heartbreaking it was that...our history was almost immediately following, I mean...look at the strategy that was using during Nonstop by the people in power. They realized that as long as negotiations were going on, they wouldn't have to talk to us.

And so they....I mean so Laura Fathaur, for example, just believes that they were intentionally delaying negotiations and trying to defund Nonstop so that we could be unemployed or out of school before they had to talk to us because it's a lot easier to ignore *former* faculty or *former* students than *current* Nonstop students or current faculty, isn't it?

And then once they got the keys, well then there's this huge celebration. Of course the whole town's happy and not just become this closed campus that provides no economic activity, no cultural activity. Of course it's better that Antioch College is open than closed. And so...I'm sure that Rose has the same experience of running into people all the time who are just so happy that Antioch has reopened, and they just have no idea about the fact..., at the same time, it was killed--in terms of the purge I mean.

But once again, looking at you guys, as Amanda said, I see continuity here. I don't think that you...I'm sorry, I'm just gonna stop...I just, you know, I see a reflection--you guys are totally Antiochian is basically what I was going to end on.

Amanda: And just so you know, as we get into this way, where we are having this conversation, it's much easier to apply the ground rules in this way. And I'm not critiquing or anything. As we get into this, so again, my perspective and I and using those terms can help and whatnot. You're not being corrected--I'm not correcting you. No, no, no, John. No, no. I'm just thinking forward as we get into this level of a conversation. I'm not, I'm not...you're fine. You're absolutely fine, just take a breath. You're cool.

Rose: You're fine, John.

John: It's fine, no, I'm just reflecting.

Amanda: Totally cool. So, on the stack. Jane's keeping stack...So how are we doing stack? We had Rowan...Rowan was on the stack.

Jane: Do we want to continue having this conversation that's happening right here?

Amanda: So okay, so a way to work the stack is that, your hand goes up, you're on the stack. And even if you're having a direct response, the place that you're on the stack, you hold your response to it until your time comes up on the stack. That's how...when we get into direct responses, it gets really tricky. This is how I say we go forward. And you can talk to me afterwards.

Ruthie Lane, Class of 2017: Does that mean, like, even changing questions, ...? Cause like, if panelists want to also reflect on the same question?

Amanda: Yeah, I mean, so it can work in the stack that it changes the question, You're on the stack Levi right now, and it might not be to this, but you keep on the stack, you add your things to your time. So when Levi time comes around, if she still wants to talk about, or they still want to talk about in response to this, that's fine. And Rowan's, and that... It's your time on the stack, it's okay. So just trust in it. Those of us who are on the stack, your time will come up, take your time when it comes up. If it brings it back up to something that came up three times ago, that's okay. Is that alright? It's a little circular. Alright.

Jane: One more thing: I just want to make sure that, there's like a lot of people here who also want to talk, just be mindful of how often you're putting yourself on stack. And maybe if you've just spoken, maybe Hold that moment, and think about it, and allow someone else.

Amanda: And trust that somebody else...Somebody else might have addressed it. You're like, yeah I feel that, okay good, you're off the stack. It was Rowan. And it was Timothy. And then I saw Levi. And then Micah. Who else is on the stack there? If you want to get on it, get on it. Stack's a good, stack's a slow moving train, jump on. Anybody else on the stack right now? Thank you for helping with names.

Eros: And I'm sure if you raise your hand and you're acknowledged, you'll be...[Jane says, You should make sure we make eye contact.] You'll get like a nod or something usually.

Amanda: Yeah, I'll look this way and I'll let Jane know.

Jane: Okay, Rowan.

Rowan: This question is especially directed towards Micah and Eric: Who or what created the Antioch Continuation Corporation, whatever, AC3 1 or AC3 2...because I know it's a separate entity from Antioch [inaudible]...

Eric: That's a good question. Others...Hassan might know...

Hassan: The team that was involved in the second round of negotiations. Eric Bates, that Jennifer talked about; David Goodman, who is already on...; Lee Morgan...they created that ACCC.

Eros: Yeah, I think it was independently organized, it didn't come out of any particular...It was alumni who either had money or influence in...[inaudible].

Hassan: Yeah.

Eric: At least one of them was on the Board, and voted not to close the college. That was Barbara Winslow. And they, in my view, they fought very hard to keep the College open. One of the things...The thing that created the most delay in the process was getting total independence. So the University Board would say, "Oh yes, you can autonomous. But you don't own the name. You have to report to us. You don't have control over the assets in any way." So that was a stumbling block to some of the biggest donors, who would not give to an institution that would continue to be attached to Antioch University.

So that was part of the process, and I think some of the conversation about the motives later on in the process, I have a different view of that. They came very close to making deals, but they also stumbled over that last bit.

Amanda: Rose, as a panelist, had a response to this question? Or are you stacking?

Rose: Yes, I had a response.

Amanda: So when you ask a question, all the panelists that want to respond can and then we'll go on to the next question.

Rose: I do want to be on stack though too. No I don't, it's okay.

If I remember correctly--AC3 and then the other organization that also failed negotiations--I don't know, I'm sure that's probably true, but the organization that eventually did complete negotiations and purchase the College for \$5.8 million, is, was the Pro Tem Board or the Board Pro Tempore and they were created by the Alumni Board and, you know, some of the...and given autonomy for the negotiations and the Alumni Board did not restrict them in any way, so that's like...I think that, more in depth, answers the question, that those other negotiations that failed, they're some of the same people and some not the same people.

Amanda: Any other panelists have a response to that question?

Eros: Also...I guess it's a little more than the original question now. Also one of the things that happened, just to understand, for me this was actually a crucial moment, and again being very fascinated by the history of this and how it happened, I'm going to probably narrativize it a little more and maybe not stick to the facts, but...like what more I perceived as having happened.

The University was kind of holding out and the reason the college didn't continue is because the ACCC at one point gave a deadline, and said, if you don't get back to us by now, it's over. No more discussion.

This is the point that I'm deviating from the facts: I think the University thought they were bluffing. The University...It was in the University's best interest to sell the College for money, and eventually they did, but then they had the Reversion Clause so we actually didn't have full independence up until we bought WYSO and bought out the Reversion Clause.

But, I mean it's...To me that's one of the most pivotal moment in the history is when the University just thought, we can just get a little more out of them. And it turns out they were in a fairly desperate financial situation themselves. They had spent a lot of money building that building, which they basically...I mean one of the reasons Antioch closed is because they built that big building, and mean that can be maybe the primary reason. And it was not a great investment, and they didn't do too well by it. And they only became more desperate and that's kind of what allowed us to buy our reversion back.

I mean, it's kind of, that's to me is actually a huge heartbreaking moment. I kind of applaud the AC3 for the temerity to stick by what they said, and at the same time, it's the moment at which it became...you know, discontinuity was introduced, and instead of allowing to stay open, keeping its faculty, keep the grounds, keeping the students there, it closed and everything had to wrap up.

28:43

Bob: I just wanted to add a little bit to that. The University had serious financial problems, which is why they came back to the table to begin with. There were two centers of the university, two campuses that were hemorrhaging money. That was one problem. The second was that a downturn of the economy at that time meant that the revenue from the endowment had dropped precipitously because the markets were in the toilet.

And they were really..and they had figured out, finally, through legal channels, that the endowment was not as fluid as they thought it would be if they owned the endowment, meaning that they would have to go to every single major donor and get some kind consent to use the revenue from the endowment. Because that was what they were really after, the college's endowment by that time was \$30 million. And finding out that we can't touch the endowment, we have two centers hemorrhaging money, and not only that, but the markets are going down, what are we going to do?

Rose: And they have to pay property taxes..[inaudible]

Bob: Let's sell the dog-on thing and I think that's part of the background of the thinking in wanting to make a deal.

Rose: We offered them \$14 million...[inaudible]

Amanda: I'm sorry, Rose, but Eric was...

30:00

Eric: Eros was sort of getting into perception--your perception of what was going on--I don't disagree necessarily, but I was fairly...I had conversations with Steve Schwarner, and he was saying, "Five o'clock. If we don't hear from them, five o'clock." And Steve was not...He's like the guy, if you want to work a bargain, he's like the guy you talk to. He's not rich, right? It wasn't a game for him, he wanted the College open. My understanding for why they had that hard deadline is because the timeline for student recruitment and the budget, what the budget would be for the following year, if they couldn't recruit students...And I believe it was April 1, of all days, you know.

Amanda: It was April 1. I remember being there.

Eric: Yeah, so as far as my understanding of motives...my perception is that they were honorable. They were trying to...And they didn't see how they could make it work after that time, because they were already past other kinds of deadlines in terms of student recruitment.

Amanda: So, panelists, or do we want to keep working through the stack. It's a choice.

31:42

Rose: Can I just say one thing? If I'm correct, that deadline was for a bid to purchase the College for \$14 million, right?

Eric: Yeah.

Rose: So the University--it's usual to put a deadline on a bid like that. And the University passed it up and had to sell the college for 5.8, four years later, so...

Amanda: Okay. Stack. Where are we on the stack?

Jane: Timothy.

Timothy: So how does, like....you ask one question and then...?

Amanda: Yeah. So When it's your turn in the stack you get to ask one question. When it's your turn

and you're on the stack about comment, you can reply to whatever things, you can direct, you have to let us know, I'm replying back to this or I'm thinking about this. But yeah man, no like triple-loaded questions here, I can't handle it. This is like...When they were like, let's moderate! I was like, Antiochians, you want me to moderate these people? Are you kidding me? I'm gonna ring a bell. That's all I got. Okay. Yes, so go ahead.

32:45

Timothy: So this one is kind of directed at you Eros, not totally though, anyone can comment on it. Earlier you said that there's a process, people want to feel involved, and a product, people want to feel like there's a result, which totally makes sense.

My question is why couldn't that product, that process I mean, exclude the leadership? you guys talk about them taking away resources, and there was a lot of talk about people not being able to play the devil's advocate because then there's the devils advocate, which goes into people oppressing you who don't agree with you, which goes into you needing to heal from those resources. Why couldn't there be a sort of, what was preventing the Community itself from working independently, you know Nonstop Antioch in a way, where there was an exclusion, a mutiny in way, where they got together and decided to change by themselves...[Rose mutters, "good faith..."] Was it to the point where people were kind of too focused on being able to change the leadership or was it an actual inability?

Amanda: Is that question clear?

34:07

Dennie: So, this parallel process happened with the Renewal Commission where there were people--you know, educational consultants--who were, and a few other people, maybe two faculty from the Antioch campus, participated for a year to create the big new idea about the new Antioch--we had to reinvent ourselves.

And it was a totally secret process. We had no idea what the outcome was. And then the plan was presented to the faculty, I think it was in the Spring of 2004, 2003 or 2004. And it was about creating Learning Communities as the structure for the entire curriculum. And the faculty at that point--We weren't involved in this, it wasn't ours, it was mandated. We knew that it would take a ton of work and it might be an interesting idea, but it was already stated--Eric said very well, it was like the curriculum was cooking.

One of the things about teaching at Antioch is we have this really deep engagement with students, with our own scholarship, with ability to innovate and to design courses that really speak to student interest and our own scholarly interest. And it's a really exciting place to teach because of this kind of relationship that we had, and because of the students who come here.

So we felt that we were doing really well and a lot of student satisfaction in terms of that relationship. And to be mandated that there should be this complete change, you know, how do we go from where we are to wherever they imagined they wanted us to be. And we had this moment where we could have said, you know, we quit. We refuse to go there.

And I think so many of us were vested in the place--I'm an Antioch grad, a number of us are Antioch grads--we cared about it, we cared about our students, and to walk away at that point would have been a stronger political act and statement, but it was a really difficult one to make

for us, because of our love for the place.

And we took it on. And there was incredible resistance because it was like, *fuck you guys. This is what is working.* And you know Eric was great about saying. The physical plant was falling apart around us. We were given these learning classrooms with technology, and it was like, [sound of excitement], you know?

And for the few faculty who decided to jump into the new curriculum, it was very exciting. We got to go to Washington State and get some training. And we created something that was very much in our spirit and in our, you know, in our...how we teach, it was very Antiochian. You know, it was not all a success. Some of the partnerships were not that good, but it was getting there.

And so that was a moment that we could have walked away, and it would have fallen apart then. And I think we were just hoping...We bought into this idea of being funded for five years, and then after two years they pulled the plug, and that was what was so stunning.

We had already given so much to try and deliver what this very divorced, impassioned...Like it had nothing to do with who we were and it had nothing to do with addressing what was really wrong here. And we didn't have any choice. We didn't feel like we had a choice. And other people here might want to support that.

Amanda: So Bob is going to reply and the other thing I want to say I hear within Timothy's questions is why didn't we just take care of ourselves? Why were we waiting on the leadership? So that's another part...But go ahead, Bob. I just wanted to say I also hear that within the question.

38:20

Bob: I just wanted to, again, fill in the financial background. When the enrollment from this program that we were killing ourselves for at Antioch turned out to be going downhill, obviously that had financial implications, and the College started to cut things.

And then the University decided, because, the University eliminated the Chief Financial Officer of the College, eliminated the position, and so the Chief Financial Officer of the University was then responsible for all of the finances of Antioch College. And the CFO of the University started to charge to the College depreciation. Which it had never done, never done in all of the years of the College.

So depreciation means how much does your physical plant depreciate each year? That turned out to be a million three, and it meant take a million and three out of the budget. I don't care. I don't care if there aren't staff in the cafeteria, Eros. I don't care if there aren't people in the counseling center. We don't care, we have to take a million three out of the budget so that we can cost depreciation.

Now the other part of the University trick at that time was that that had always been balanced against endowment growth. So endowment growth was really just on paper, meaning the endowment grew in money and they counted that as revenue. The depreciation is an expense and they counted that as negative. But they always balanced, and the College never had to put it in its budget.

The University decided, we will keep the endowment revenue in the University budget. And we will charge the depreciation expense for the entire University to the College, and so it was taking a million and three out of a budget that was already limping. And that meant, you know, everything

has to be open fewer hours, there have to be fewer people, they have to be fewer faculty, there have to be fewer supports. That was part of the motivation, and that was part of what started that downhill.

Amanda: Rose had a response to the question?

40:25

Rose: So the question was about why we didn't just do it on our own. And...I mean I think that's what we thought we were doing at Nonstop. The Alumni were funding us doing it on our own, right? And then the Alumni were funding us getting back the campus. And the people who were on the Board decided to do what they would with the money they were getting, and they weren't giving it to Nonstop anymore. And we all thought that we were on the same side, and so...

I mean, one of my greatest regrets is that we didn't just pull a new school, and just had Nonstop here and broke into the building. But negotiations were going through and we wanted to buy the College back. I mean, I think it would have been....Maybe something else would have happened.

But, like, the faculty were in a lawsuit because, just to keep the College open. We were in negotiations. And we thought that Matt Derr and Lee Morgan and these people, when they couldn't tell us that they could bring us forward... They just couldn't tell us but we just thought that we would...and then they didn't, and they didn't, and they didn't, and they didn't.

And they said, with the new president, then we'll hire the faculty, and the new president says, it's 80% done, I mean, we've counted on good faith for so long, and then we were lost...And it wasn't there. I mean I think it wasn't there. I mean some good faith was there, they obviously wanted something, but it didn't help my community and my family. My teachers are not working at Antioch, so...

Amanda: So it's Eros, and then John, and then any other panelists. Like I said, just put your hands up, and I'll getcha...

Eros: I assume the question is about the more recent governance push. When specifically

Amanda: Do you want to clarify, Timothy?

Timothy: As far as the time frame, it would be...That covers post-closure. But pre-closure, there was focus trying to change how the leadership controlled the school and things like that...You mentioned people oppress each other when they didn't agree. And that caused people to use resources to heal, [inaudible] to cope with that kind of thing. And there were resources taken away that prevented that healing, right? Am I understanding that right?

Eros: Yeah, I mean the resources that were taken away--We live in a capitalist society, and that is a problem. That, I mean...I'm not gonna sugarcoat that. That's a problem. The fact, the resources...People need, people are required to maintain tied to structures and institutions in order to survive. I mean you can always go out and do it on your own, but no matter how hard you work, you may not be able to feed yourself, find a place to sleep at night, pay people a reasonable amount of money to do hard work, you know, and that...I think that there's been a lot of interest in making sure, I don't know....I think that, like people's investment in Antioch makes them want to reform the institution and, like, stick around.

And this is something that I kind of want to, I guess, share with people, because it's been on my mind tonight: that a former--Steve Lawry--said that the problem with Antiochians is that they're

trying to win their victories for humanity while they're still at Antioch. And I think that if you spend enough time in activist or nonprofit communities, you will basically hear people telling you that all the time. It's like, don't rock the boat too much, don't change the structure. Like, there's some good in here, so, and then also, if you want to do something else, just go do it on your own. And I think sometimes that's not sufficient. Sometimes you have to say, no, I'm investing in this. Other people are invested in this. This has resources and this can go somewhere good.

I'm gonna...I don't know, When I was coming back here, a very good friend of mind, Shea Witzo, told me that--I felt very conflicted about accepting, like coming back to Antioch when so many of the people I went to school with and the people who were part of my community, and my professors, and the staff members were not welcomed back. And I didn't understand why I got in, and I still in some ways don't. I think that it was like a clerical error. But anyway, she told me, she said that she thought I should go and I should give them hell in the best way.

And I think that's how oftentimes you can prove your love to an institution, is be unrelentingly critical, but at the same time, pushing for progress and finding ways to fix things. And I think that, that was, that's been so much of Antioch and love it or leave it doesn't work, you know...You do love it, so you are going to fight for it, you are going to disagree with people, you're going to get into heated discussions and feel incredibly emotional about it, that--Again, also so much of Antioch, like why it can be painful, because people care, people really do care.

There are so many schools who would give so much to have the kind of investment from students that this school has. There are so many schools where people, after four years, they like coming back to reunion and getting drunk and maybe meeting a few new students. But it's not, you know, it's not, reunion isn't return home in the way it is for so many Antiochians. And that's beautiful. Unfortunately not all of those people have crap tons of money to give. And so...you know, no matter how invested, they want people, like, literally invested.

But sometimes you gotta grab those people by the collar and say, listen, I know you want Antioch to be this one thing or not to change in this one way, but we are going to, or we are at least going to tell you that's what we want and if you ignore us, it's..we're going to make things difficult.

And eventually Antioch did go out and do things on its own, you know, the community got together....That was happening during the closure. People realized that we didn't have a plan B and that's what ExCil was and did create. The problem is, again, capitalist society. People need money to survive. They couldn't just continue on their own. There wasn't anyone offering, you know, \$10 million to fund it for the next however many years.

Amanda: So, John, and then I'm going to turn Jane over. [Inaudible chatter.] Levi, yes...John is replying...John, you're replying to this question?

Thirteen hours, I've been working thirteen hours...seriously, eight o'clock.

48:22

John: So, I'm a little bit afraid of offending some people on the panel, but I kind of want to echo a little bit of what Rose said, but maybe a little bit more pointedly. There is this view that Antiochians are all radical, and resisting and so forth...But there's also the opposite view that they're far too nice and try to work within the existing leadership.

And I, you know, I think if you look at the history, you will see a lot of situations where people

went along with the people in power to their own...you know, not to their own benefit. And I think that it's an excellent thing that you guys are organizing a student union, because you have to learn, because also to be able to take those sort of stances, you need to know how, you need to have the confidence that yes, you can fight this fight, and you can win. You can organize those people that don't even know about your struggle, don't know who you are and you can get them on your side, right? I don't know if...you know, people always have the confidence, or know how to do that. I mean, obviously people do a lot of that. I'm sorry, I feel like that's offensive, but I feel like there were some missed opportunities. I'm offended by my own words, even.

Amanda: So Levi, with a reply... I just want to say this, If we can't get to it all. But this is an amazing thing that has happened, and hope this opens up conversations and questions, and like, we did this so amazing. Levi on this response.

50:00

Levi: So one thing that I want to say is actually there was a lot of care that happened sort of outside just what the institution was hanging us. I mean there was a lot. It's a very...you know, I mean I'm sure this is still true, but Antioch was a very intensive experience and there was a lot of organizing of...on a lot of levels. People, students especially, putting together their own sort of teach-ins and workshops and discussion groups and support groups, and just events about making safe containers or healing spaces, about...you know, Amanda used to do a love your body night. Resources from the school...[Amanda interjects: "We didn't masturbate, I'm just saying. We loved our bodies.] It was different. But, you know, I think that things that were done with very little money, sometimes with no money, or would have happened even if they hadn't been institutionally financed, so, that was happening It was. And I just want to say that, it was. It was happening.

But I think, I want to piggy back a little bit on what Rose was saying, that there's, you know, that ironically, during this toxic culture time, there was so much faith that things could just so easily be resolved, and be better, and that, like this belief at the core of people there's a goodness, and if we can just access it, and we just want to access it, right?

I remember having this frustration about various presidents and people in the administration that--and this is my own perspective, I can't really attribute motivation to other people, I have no idea what was going on in their heads--but it seemed to me like there was a lot of insecurity, a lot of defensiveness around feeling threatened by students having input into decision making, by having some of their authority ripped from their presidential hands and you know, and then they'd be less of a man, I don't know what it was! So...

But, you know, it's like, why? It would just be so easy, to just go, you know, feels like that's maybe about me a little bit. I'm just gonna sit with that for a minute. I'm gonna...Yup, that's my own insecurity. This is going to hard, but I'm just gonna...I actually, they're 18 or 19, maybe it's not that big a threat. I make, whatever, like hundreds of thousands of dollars, and they make nothing, they're poor and destitute. Maybe they're not that much of a threat. Maybe let's give this a try, like why? Why? I think that's a frustration. The solution just seems to easy. You shouldn't have to stage a coup for somebody to be like, sure, let's make the decision together! It just seems so easy, so nice, and collaborative, and not toxic at all. And yet, there is always this resistance...

And it's frustrating, you know, all these toxic kids who wanted that, who wanted that collaboration, who wanted actually everybody to have a seat at the table. To, you know, to be able to sit and talk with the President, and the Dean of Students, and the Dean of Admissions, and whoever else, and be like, here are problems we are all feeling, let's come to a solution together. I

mean, how kumbaya is that? And that's the thing that's seen as so threatening. I think that's why..The solution just seems so easy and so beautiful. I mean tt's hard to let that go.

Jane: So, we got the stack. You're next on the real stack. Also it is currently eleven o'clock. The panelists have been here for almost five hours. Congrats, everyone. [Eros asks how many people are on the stack.] We only have...we have two panelists and three questions.

[54:10 - 55:24 is A lot of back and forth conversation about how we're going to wrap up that I don't want to transcribe.]

Amanda: ...assuming best intentions and all that, and I want to give you a high five on this, because I had panic attacks, possibly, about how possibly this could go down and how many hurt feelings could happen. So I'm very, very proud of all of us, just saying. Because these are intense conversations.

Jane: I was just going to say, that people can voluntary continue these conversations if they want. I'm not saying you have to leave because it's late. Im saying, be mindful of other's people's time because it's late and we've been here for a long time, so negotiate this amongst yourselves, anyway.

So, we have...the panelists who are on stack. You guys want to ask all the questions at once? ...That seems stressful.

Amanda: I know, I'm getting nervous.

[More chatter that I'm not going to try to transcribe.]

Jane: So we've got Ellie.

56:32

Ellie Burck, Class of 2018: Okay, I guess... Going from the fact that lots of the professors weren't invited back to Antioch and that Nonstop was kind of shut down. I'm curious as to how Non...participants in Nonstop and professors are still working with the college and if relationships have started to mend, I know it's still a really raw experience...yeah, I'm just a little curious along that...and yeah, it's a very deep question, and...ee.

Jane: So on stack before this question we have Levi and Micah if you guys want to answer first.

Rose: No, all questions!

Amanda: We went through the stack and people had taken their questions off the stack voluntarily. Thanks for clarifying.

Michelle Fujii, Class of 2018: Wait, can I add a question? It's sort of related to what she said...I'm just curious, why weren't the Nonstop professors rehired, because it seems like they were the ones keeping Antioch's spirit alive? Also, did the Nonstop students get the chance to rejoin Antioch College?

57:50

Bob: For some people, there's been healing. For very few. For many, they were brushed with that wide swath of being toxic, and we don't want them, don't come near. Don't even step a foot on

campus. I saw that because I--I with a couple of former colleagues--talk about being in exile from the college. Because if we said the things that are on our mind, or if we stepped on campus we would be a danger to the kind of order and control, to the kind of whatever has been put in place...

For students, I think a few students can speak to that but I think it was for some people it was devastating. It didn't matter about the record, it didn't matter what they did. It didn't matter about what other things they did. Some people were asked to take extra courses in order to get back into Antioch. Meaning well if you take an English course or you take a math course, then you can get back into Antioch. And it's like, what? I've been here for two years, and you're saying I can't go to school here unless I go to some other institution and do something else? That, I think, was devastating... That was saying, cut your heart out, you don't belong here anymore. And I don't know if that heals, I don't how that has healed.

But I know for the faculty, a lot have dispersed and gone elsewhere. And they will forever be in exile and they're, you know--apart from losing your career and losing your paycheck, and having to move, and having to do something else, doesn't matter where you are in your career--apart from that, I think there's still a feeling among a number of us, that we're in exile. We're just in exile. It was a coup. It was a coup d'état and just [*whish* noise].

Rose: Can we go like that?

Amanda: Yeah, that's a great idea, Rose. Thank you.

59:55

Rose: So, I don't know why the faculty we're rehired. I would very much like to know that. I think there are clues in the meeting minutes for the Board Pro Tem and the Board of Trustees, and I would like them to be released. I asked for them many times from Matt Derr, and he always said, oh, the lawyers are looking at them, and they'll be out next month. Apparently Scott Sanders has said that the lawyers have deemed them un...unaccessible. They are not available to us. I don't know how that works legally, because they were a nonprofit, so.

Anyway, I--my literature professor got a job in Buffalo. I drove her there. Our media professor, Chris--who's why I came to Nonstop--she's in LA, an adjunct, driving in LA. Her partner got a job at a museum.

I applied for the first year and, was...I never went to Antioch. I was told that I needed to go, that I could get in the second year if I went to another school full time for a year, took only Gen Ed's and didn't get a C. I asked many questions about that, I was told that the credits wouldn't transfer in, the Horace Mann Fellowship wasn't available, wasn't going to be, they didn't know it was going to be available later. I didn't do that. I didn't apply last year. Anyway, I don't really have a great academic record, so that's probably why I'm not going to Antioch.

So...and, you know, people, Lincoln Alpern, who wrote an editorial in the last Record, was also asked to do those things. He went to Antioch for a year, was a straight A student. He went on EA for a semester, he was a straight A student. He was also asked to do those things. He came back and lived in town. He volunteered at Work Project every month. He spoke up at Community Meetings and he was asked to not volunteer at Antioch anymore. He was making people uncomfortable. I think he applying this year. He's applied every year, he hasn't gotten in. He has his MA from London, from London University now, but he still wants to come here, so...

62:55

Levi: So, I...I think I said, after I graduated I moved to California, and actually a lot of things were going really well for me there, particularly in terms of career, things like, I was passionate about what I was doing, I was increasing in responsibility and salary, I was winning victories for humanity, it was fantastic. But I needed to be in someplace that felt more like home, and this was that place. And I sort of--and you know some of this is me, this is my own delusions in my own head--but I really felt like it was an exciting time, the College was reopening, and perhaps, perhaps there would be a place for me here.

And actually I was on the Community and Community Governance Task Force. So I would fly back and forth, from California to hear for stuff, for meetings. And that..there were a lot of lovely people on that task force, I want to say, first of all. Jennifer Berman, Al Denman being two of them. I love them deeply and sincerely.

But overall it was not a good experience for me. It was actually a very frustrating experience. It felt in many ways like it was an un-Antiochian experience. I did not feel heard at all. When I did speak up for myself, I felt shut down. It was not well-moderated sometimes, like people would literally...I would start talking, and people would look at me and go [disapproving facial expression]. It was like, okay, I guess I'm not talking now.

So that was...And I applied for a job here, that I did not get. We can talk about that one on one sometime if you want to. And then I started, and I like volunteered, people, they were desperate for volunteers for certain things, and I would volunteer and never get a call. And these things could be coincidental. Again, I'm not trying to attribute motivations to other people. I really don't know what was going on in people's heads and lives. And there were some very good people involved on the other ends of these things. But It has definitely lead me to feel like there isn't a place for me here. Which maybe in some ways is appropriate, you know there's new...If the College had never closed, if it had just continued, I would feel very legitimately like it belonged to the new students, whatever.

But I did begin to feel like there was something about me personally. I remember being told at one point that, like the people I hung out sort of gave me a bad image, and Rose and John Hempfling were two of those people, so, I don't know, they're pretty bad eggs. So, you know, I...It's been hard for me to have good feelings about the new college.

And I've met a lot of really fantastic students. I mean, really...you guys are pretty awesome, a lot of you that I've met. And some great faculty. And, you know, friends of mine still work here. Friends of mine still work here. But it's been hard for me to have good feelings about the College. Like, I ended up working at Bentino's, although I did just get a new job in my field, so yay for me. It's pretty exciting.

But I've working at Bentino's, you know, because I have to pay rent, and you guys order pizza a lot and have it delivered to the College, and I had to admit to my co-workers one day, I was like, when that phone rings and it is from the College, I cannot answer it. Because there is a rage inside of me that I just...I have to work, I have to work, and I can't after I feel those feelings, so if someone else could just answer the phone. Because it did feel personal. And so it's really great kind of feeling to be here, and to be able to talk to you. And I know there are friends of mine who can't have anything to do with the college, can't read an article about it, can't read...you know, can't, just can't engage, because it felt so personal...

Amanda: Okay. I'm sorry, no, I'm sorry. I hate that. I'm just really trying to..

Levi: Yeah, no, I'm done.

Amanda: I hate what you're saying. I'm sorry I had to come in there. So, thank you, Levi, I'm sorry. So we had set this up with the question that everybody had an opportunity. I'm just going to do a time check. 11:11...

Eros: Everyone make a wish.

Amanda: Everyone make a wish. And if we can..I'm not going to close this. There's four more of you, so please find your words and respond if your need to respond to the question. And then we're gonna group hug it out. Okay.

Eros: I think that, I mean, that was a beautiful last question, both of you, because that's so much of what this is about. In that Antioch Stories class I talked about, David Thelen, who documented the Truth and Reconciliation Committee, talked about the need for this similar idea at Antioch and that...

[Jane asks for clarification.]

Eros: What the...the Truth and Reconciliation Committee...? Yeah, I don't want to provide too much context, because it's a story that provides so much of its own...Oh god, I feel like I'm going to say something wrong and stupid...

Amanda: Just real quick? I mean it's essentially a process that is used and has been used in South Africa post-apartheid in order to talk about, air out, acknowledge, people were hurt and people caused harm. Essentially that would be how I would wrap it up. And absolutely more justice--go Google that, okay?

68:50

Eros: So, yes. Thank you. Anyway, he talked about the need, you know, there's a similar trauma. And to me I always say this trauma as this emotional thing that stuck with this community emotionally. However, I have begun to see it has remained in this community structurally, where people appear too close to, either through actual personal connection, or just similarly of opinion, or demeanor, or dress, or identity, to what was perceived as toxic are still made to feel incredibly unwelcome in this community in incredibly significant ways.

I do not want to get too personal but...There were two students who came in as former Antioch students, and neither of us are here any longer. That...both of us have seen our friends forced out and excluded in similar ways. I mean that trauma needs to be healed, because as long as that perception still exists, that there was an evil Antioch from which we must separate ourselves. Anyone who is scary enough will be put in that toxic culture box, and will be, gone on to be completely unheard.

I can't express--in one very stressful meeting, like, just the idea of it, of there being, the perception of it being a social clique, where people you're tied to...I and Charlie, the other student who entered with me, were pointed at and told that none of our friends would be going here while we were still here. And if that answers your question about why Nonstop students are not here...I mean, that's the answer.

And that was, that was just, I mean, both of us felt what we can only describe, like, survivor's guilt about being here. And [inaudible] in so many ways. It was basically someone coming up and telling you this will never be your home again. And I'm seeing that change and this is the way that needs a change, where we confront that past, because y'all are dealing with the ramifications of what happened even though you're not being told the story. And I think...What maybe people didn't anticipate is that y'all would be smart enough to figure that out.

But, one of the other problems is that, that then, all the responsibility for that is put on these toxic students--like, no one would be objecting, protesting, getting angry if there wasn't these toxic students in there riling people up. So as long as you have this albatross of the concept of toxic culture--that the College closed because people were a bunch of queer smelly meanies..Queer, smelly, pot, socially awkward, or maybe just, you know, kind of unfriendly people here--we'll always be silenced and we'll always be pushed out and it will continue to cause pain.

This is so much of what the answer is. I can't tell you what this means to me. I'm still shaking. I had spoken at Antioch twice before, after leaving, and I was nervous, but...I mean I'm still like vibrating. I can't get over it. There are some scary, upsetting things to talk about, but we do need to be talking about them. So, you know, the question about why aren't they here, it's because they're perceived as carrying this toxicity with them that would infect the other students. And part of the Renewal Plan and also sort of part of the plan when Antioch was on a block schedule, was to make sure new students got a time here before old students came back was so that way they wouldn't be tainted by...You know, we just kind of have to excise that, it was incredibly traumatic to be labeled that way. And it does harm to current Antioch by making people afraid to speak up and speak truth to power.

73:23

Micah: So I think that I'm probably the person up here who is most associated with the new Antioch, which is interesting for me in the sense that I so recently remember going and protesting at the University when they opened the new building and being outraged that the College was going to close and singing at my commencement about this. I mean these are events, every one of us, all of you too, have lived through.

And we all have our own narratives and hurts about it. I mean a lot of what Antioch has faced as a community is scarcity. I mean there has been scarcity as long as I have been here. When I got here, when we marched into these classrooms, there was a lot of upset from upperclassmen because there was scarcity of the best faculty, because they were teaching in the Learning Communities. There was scarcity in terms of dorm rooms, facilities...when the College closed, when the CRF was unable to raise money for Nonstop, when the College reopened in 2009, we wouldn't have students on campus for two years.

So, I didn't...I was fairly peripheral at that point, but I guess I would just caution against us as some have here have done, ascribing malevolence to the people that were on this part of the movement. So, truth and reconciliation, I think it's a great idea. And there is a whole party here that is not represented, and that's the University. And in a lot of ways-- not in a lot of ways--they are the people that closed my college. Those are the people that closed my college.

The movement to save Antioch became fractured. Actually, even before we actually the keys to the College and we all have a narrative of what truth is and what Antioch is and they all have legitimacy and often tread on one another, so I guess I would just encourage folks to do one of our ground rules is, which is assume the best intentions, and I know that's a challenge, definitely, but

if we can keep engaging, then hopefully we can not, sort of, create villains, you know, and monsters.

Amanda: Well, so, yeah?

Bob: I just wonder if I can piggyback on Micah.

Micah: I would be honored to hear what you have to say, Bob.

76:22

Bob: You're absolutely right. This might be a downer for people, to hear all of that. But here's the up side. The upside is, as we said, they no longer have a University. Gosh, I have scars all over my body from dealing with the University for the years that I did, but there's no University that's going to affect your future. And what I know, that gives me optimism about you all, is that throughout Antioch's history, it has always been students with a few faculty allies that has moved the College forward. The administration has never moved the College forward. [laughter] Overarching structures have never moved--It has always been the push of students with a few faculty allies. It is now your college. You can make it any kind of college that you want. You just have to keep pushing, and keep remembering that. It's your college.

Elijah: Go to ComCil. [laughter]

John: Thanks, Bob. Yeah, all I want to add is that this event has meant so much to me. Thank you guys.

[applause]

Amanda: A few closing comments...

Levi: Can I just say...well, I never got back to my thing on stack, which was one thing that I just want to say, because we've talked so much about these very personal injustices, and that's real. But if that, you might, maybe you don't know us and maybe that doesn't resonate with you, so something Bob said a couple of times a while back is that one of the injustices during the closure and the reopening, it is a very political issue around, I mean would it be fair to call it a sort of union busting? I mean, so if this is, labor...

Amanda: I just want to be mindful of our time...[inaudible]

Levi: So if labor issues are important to you, the issues of tenure and higher education, I mean you don't have to care about our stories personally, but that should be something that's politically interesting to you and that's foundational to what's happening here, so I think there's...a motivation to want to move on from those things, and, well, the past is in the past, but it is foundational to how this institution being built, so it is something that needs to be wrestled with...

Amanda: Levi, you're pulling out a notebook?

Levi: It's not really a notebook...

I just want to just say something about making villains, I think it's real to not demonize people, but also, good intentions aren't necessarily free pass because consequences are really what matter. And it doesn't mean to make villains out of people, because they mean well, but it doesn't mean that they did well.

And, you know, the Learning Communities, and isolating first year students from the older students, that people wouldn't be traumatized meant that, trans and genderqueer students were incredibly isolated from other trans and genderqueer students, and that did harm to them, so I'm not going to debate the validity of like protecting people in this sort of container and not having scary older students and whatever, but there is a consequence that people were harmed in that process. So that's like, yes, don't make demons out of people, but think about the consequences of actions and deal with that.

Amanda: Thank you.

[applause]

Jane: It's all you.

Amanda: Alright. All me. There are things that I like in my life, pedicures, foot rubs, chocolate...no, the things that I really love in my life are keep engaging, I work on the fourth floor...one thing I wanted to say about this last question is that there were people who had to leave early, right? And I just wish they had been here, for that question. SO, I don't know that they want to talk about it or answer that question, I can't speak for them, but I encourage you, maybe, to think about that last question, and email them and say, here's this last question that came up, can we talk about it, maybe? Because the people that unfortunately left are the people who came back in to work here, so I think that their narratives and stories are also really interesting. So be mindful of that, and I do encourage them, and I will give them a heads up, that questions might come along...

Greta Treistman, Class of 2017: How do we contact them?

Amanda: They all have Antioch College email addresses.

I was speaking only about the people who have left here probably all have Antioch college emails. Thank you so very very much. This is a really beautiful thing. I'm really, I just can't say it enough how proud I am to be a part of this, and I'm really proud of all of you for showing up, showing up full soul, body, mind. Take care of ourselves, and take care of on another. One thing that I will say I don't want to see recreated at the Antioch that we are here and now, is that I feel like, for as small of a college as it was, we got really bad, and this my perspective, this is how I felt, is making eye contact, saying hello. And it killed us, simple steps. See each other. See your faculty. Make eye contact and say hello. I don't care if you think their politics suck. I don't care if they made you angry. I don't care if they want playboy and you don't. Eye contact, head nod, hello. Let's...that's a simple, simple thing. I think that's...Jane, I swear to, just kidding, no, Jane you're the other moderator, and Taylor too, go ahead...

Jane: Here's just one thing: when you leave, can you clean up after yourself? Thanks.

Amanda: Thank you all.

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