

Higher Ed in a Nutshell

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Citizen

Want someone to explain today's academia in 200 words or less? We volunteer. Just consider two recent events from the same school.

Item One: Last fall, the College of William & Mary in Virginia – responding to a complaint from a single student – yanked a large, historic cross from the chapel to make it “less of a faith-specific place.” Even after more than 10,000 students and alumni protested, the school modified policies only slightly: The cross could appear on Sundays only, and kept out of sight the rest of the time.

Item Two: On Valentine's Day eve, the school auditorium hosted something called the Sex Workers Art show, funded mostly by student fees.

The details of the night should be kept mercifully sparse. Suffice it to say it included strippers and prostitutes displaying tools of their trade, and featured characters with colorful names like Dirty Martini and Amber Dawn. All this was justified in the usual PC terms: Organizers said it was about “sex positivity” and “empowerment.”

Did anyone object? Sure, several folk, professors included. But President Gene Nichols said the school couldn't “censor or cancel performances because they are controversial.”

There you have it. Any questions?