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Ivory Power

As another term goes by, Occidental has once again upheld the "academic ivory power." Mary Jane Hewitt's untimely resignation exposed the sheltered, segregated view of Oxy's history department—the bastion of the liberal arts tradition. No, I'm not talking about how deeply concerned the members of the department are, nor of the heartfelt criticism of the Advisory Council, but rather of department chairman Brice Harris' pithy phrase, "minority history."

Minority means second-rate, underage, state of being a minor, the other, or them people over there. *Minority* bespeaks of the insignificant—and the unimportant. And one can read Dr. Harris' statement as, "Unimportant history is too important to be ignored!" Such wit! Granted that the literal meaning of the term minority means numerically small, this is still a basically narrow and ethnocentric view-

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