

## **Flier's wording generates national attention**

*By Abra Belke and Ezra Casteel*

When College Republicans President Paul Schafer brought conservative author and lecturer Daniel Flynn to campus to discuss his book "Why the Left Hates America," he hoped it would promote discussion and be well attended.

"I knew that some people would be upset that we invited Flynn to speak," Schafer said. "I never imagined that I would end up defending the flier instead of our opinions." The fliers that Schafer created and posted around campus prominently displayed the title of the book and advertised the lecture's date and location. The controversy began when some members of the Gonzaga community took issue with the flier's wording.

"When I saw the poster, I took one down because our publicity policy says that we don't allow hate speech to be posted around campus," said Director of Student Activities David Lindsay. "I took the poster to one of the Student Life board meetings in order to discuss the issue and found that another member had one as well. We as a board then decided to look into the situation in order to determine the poster's intent and whether there was reason to be concerned."

Lindsay was charged with the task because he also oversees the operation of the Crosby Student Center and one of his employees, Carol Magnuson, had approved the initial flier.

Lindsay met with Schafer to discuss the issues concerning the flier. The two came to a mutual agreement that Schafer would alter the flier by adding quotes around the title of Flynn's book, to clarify any misunderstandings.

Schafer changed the flier and was in the process of replacing the questionable materials with their updated and agreed-upon version, when he received a letter from Activities Coordinator Anna Gonzales and GSBA Clubs and Organizations Vice President Shannon Haines.



rumors." He personally feels that the issue has been "exacerbated in an attempt to fan the flames of controversy."

Like Itule, Hellwig-Olson also questioned if escalating the attention given to this issue is for the greater good of the Gonzaga community.

However, Schafer said, "I think the press attention is good because people in the community and prospective students should know about the things that happen at Gonzaga."

Schafer added, "It also brings up issues that need to be discussed by people on campus."

The controversy regarding the speaker has ballooned beyond anything that might have been imagined when the speaker was first scheduled.

Those eager for a resolution to the controversy will have to wait until the GSBA ad hoc committee reports its findings to Forum on Oct. 28. Until then, no further action will be taken against the executive or the club.

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