

Voices in Flux

This is a student publication. That carries a lot of baggage. Implications of youth, innocence and inexperience come to mind. We can be afforded a certain amount of latitude because we live beneath the ivory tower and have yet to suffer the struggles that lie ahead in the real world.

Our knowledge of the world comes from books and lectures—heavy on theory, light on reality. Or does it?



We are typical students, but what does that mean? We range in age from 20 to 43. We have children, we are single and we are married. We are gay, we are lesbian, we are heterosexual. One of us is first-generation Cambodian, another is first-generation Vietnamese and yet another is a Nicaraguan refugee. We have worked in the private sector and the public sector. We have traveled and along the

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way seen war, poverty and the intricacies that make up the human condition. Somewhere along the way we decided to go to college. Being a student is not something that defines us—it is simply an experience we share.

Two of our writers would pass unnoticed at almost any school in the country— young women, who a generation ago would have been called coeds and asked innocently what campus organizations they belonged to. But less than a year ago one of them was witnessing the horror we have come to know as the genocide in Rwanda, while the other was interviewing His Holiness the Dalai Lama of Tibet.

We went out and listened to the voices of the world and brought back the stories we heard. Strap a board to your feet and experience the thrill of sliding down a sand dune. Learn what it's like to battle depression, travel the world without sight, or live between two cultures. There is more. Look inside. Constant or frequent change, that's *Flux*, and we have tried once again, if only for a moment, to suspend it in time and make a little sense of the world around us.

Here we go again . . .

— Mark O. Howerton

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