

VINTAGE AAUP

Readers will recall that in March, our lead story dealt with the anti-Christian and anti-Semitic incidents that took place at the New Paltz campus of the State University of New York (SUNY) last year. The incidents occurred during a conference on "Revolting Behavior: The Challenges of Women's Sexual Freedom." The conference featured a sex-toy sale, masturbation workshops, explicit discussions of sadomasochism, lesbian sex, as well as shots at Christians and Jews. Under attack from many quarters was SUNY-New Paltz president Roger Bowen, a staunch defender of the conference.

Though Dr. Bowen obviously can't tell the difference between the Playboy Mansion and a college campus, he is a hero to some: the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) has made Bowen the recipient of its 1998 Academic Freedom award. Not bad for a guy who is a cross between Louis Farrakhan and Pee Wee Herman.