

Dear Visionaries

Congratulations on your wise rejection of the article I recently submitted to your journal. By your actions you have, once again, defended the dominant paradigm, insuring that no one learns anything new. We are comforted that the world's knowledge remains safely limited to what you know. Certainly your professors in graduate school were of the notion that if they didn't think of it, then it couldn't be true. It is good to know you are carrying on that fine tradition.

In recognition of your mission to raise the Status Quo to an art form, we have entered your names in this year's annual Genuflect Award. This award was first given to the Catholic Church just over ten years ago in 1992, the year they forgave Galileo, and typifies the highest achievement of Psychological Arteriosclerosis, known in the popular press as "hardening of the attitudes". Having this honor bestowed on you means you will join legions of mediocre, turf-protecting bureaucrats who never had an original thought in their lives *and* always sought to stifle those who did.

Unfortunately, a world in which the keepers of the intellectual holy grail are so narrow minded that they can look through a keyhole with both eyes does not exactly advance society. But we know you are doing your best to optimize your tenure position, protect the wizardry you and a No. 2 lead pencil mastered in 1952, and see to it that any new idea is filed deep in a file drawer in your office where the blinds on the windows are tightly closed.

No doubt your idea of a computer is a calculator with a crank on it. But if you ever decide to go outdoors you will notice that many people have a substantial amount of RAM on their desks and can do a lot of things today that could not be done when you were in graduate school. While you are firmly rooted to your University Chair, the rest of the world goes about its business experiencing and proving new things, all the while ignoring you. Don't you let that bother you. Fasten that seat belt on your Chair tightly, stay right where you are and no one will hurt you. You go right on refining the twin notions of irrelevance and arrogance. We need you there to point to as a counterexample when students want to be innovative and creative.

You are the in the box we want them to think out of.

Sincerely