Activity 6

The class is divided up into small groups and each group decides whether they want to do assignment 1 or 2.

Assignment 1

Go to the "Dropping Knowledge" website. Browse the 100 questions and find a question the group would like to read about and discuss.

Read the entries and watch the videos of at least 2-3 participants (try to find people with opposing points of view), and then start your discussion on the question/topic.

At the end of the session, write down your question, who you heard from on the website, and what the group's final answers to the question are (or what came up in the discussion).

Assignment 2

This can be about either MIT or Wellesley College (or maybe both). Here's the set up:

Occasionally MIT plans things that are reactions to current tragic events or sometimes to celebrate positive events.

Examples:

- a) Right after 9/11, MIT organized a day of discussion, commemoration, and healing. They organized all the students (grad and undergrad) into small groups, with faculty and staff as facilitators, and gathered everyone on Killian Court to discuss what had happened in a reasonable way, how people were feeling about it, and to address the next steps. There was a small recreation of the World Trade Tower built on one side of the Chapel wall and there were lectures and discussions planned for an entire day to help people deal with and begin to understand the tragedy.
- b) On the positive side in January 2000, one evening MIT transformed the student center and held the Millennium Ball. They had music and food, dance floors, and three floors of the student center were decorated. All MIT people were invited, students, staff, and faculty. Honestly you could not recognize the place. It was beautiful and everything was free. They had rooms laid out with MIT historical stuff and videos from the MIT Museums.

So your assignment (if you choose to accept it...) is to come up with something you think MIT and/or Wellesley needs to address (other than too much work). It can be a positive thing or a negative thing. Design an entire day of activities around your "thing".

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