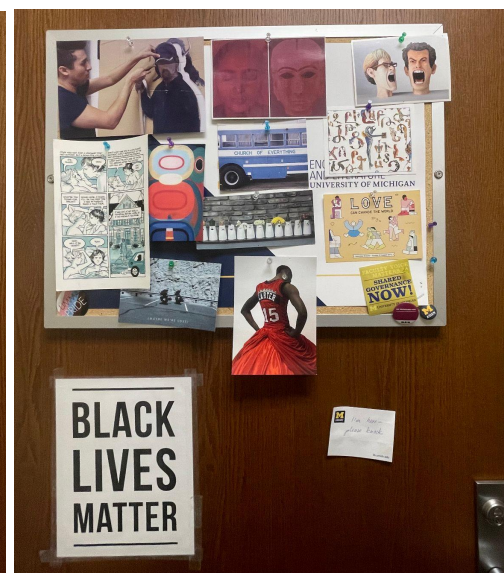
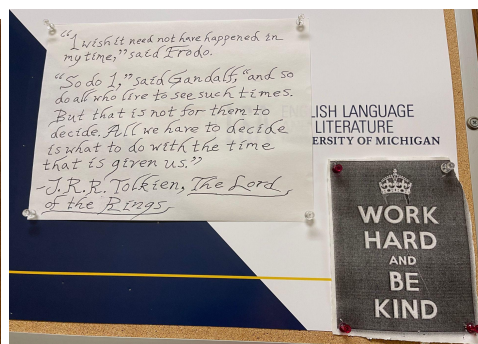


I've come to believe that if you want proof that people care about justice, a good way to get that proof is to look at faculty offices.

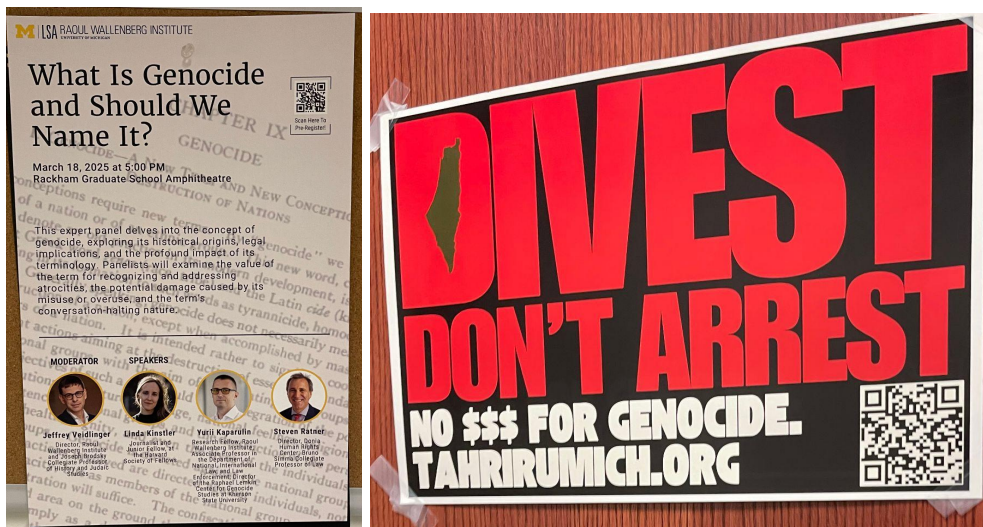
A quick way to circumvent the Mason Hall elevator traffic jam, especially if you have a class on the 3rd floor, is to use Tisch, Haven, or Angell's elevators and then navigate through the hallways to get to Mason. My go-to, before I found out that the others connected as well, was to use Angell Hall's elevator, and that led me on a walk through the English department.





What I quickly learned is that so many of these instructors are showing, in a variety of ways, their commitment to keeping safe spaces for different kinds of students on campus, while also fighting for the rights of instructors at all stages of their careers. This is prevalent in English, Digital Studies, and similar departments, since they often host specialties such as queer studies, disability studies, and area/cultural studies.

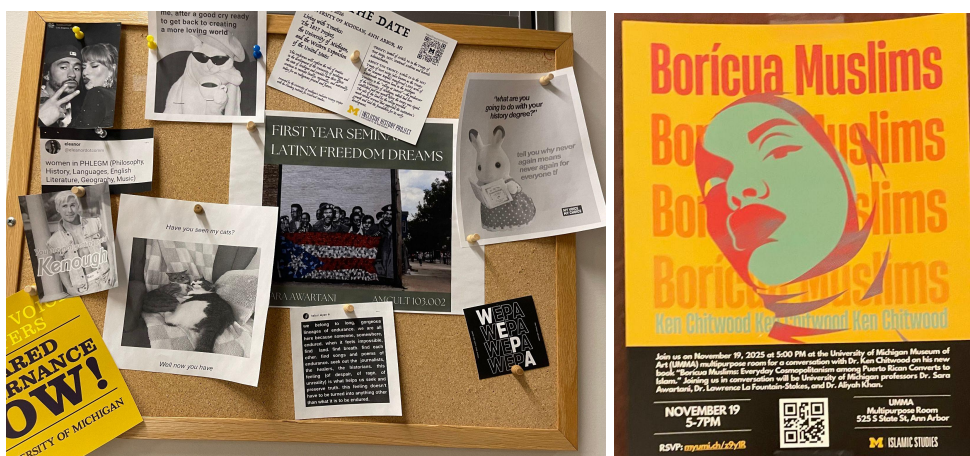
I was fascinated by this, and a decision to visit the Philosophy department's offices led to an adventure through all four interconnected buildings, and many (but not all) of the departments hosted within. Some of these departments included Classical Studies, Comparative Literature, American Culture, Political Science, History, and Afroamerican and African Studies. The following pictures are some of the highlights.



It turns out that a lot of instructors are speaking about genocide. Given the timing, we can assume that even the posters that don't specifically mention Palestine are speaking about the Palestinian genocide that is ongoing. I did not see any noticeable posters or statement-making artifacts that were specifically pro-Israel.

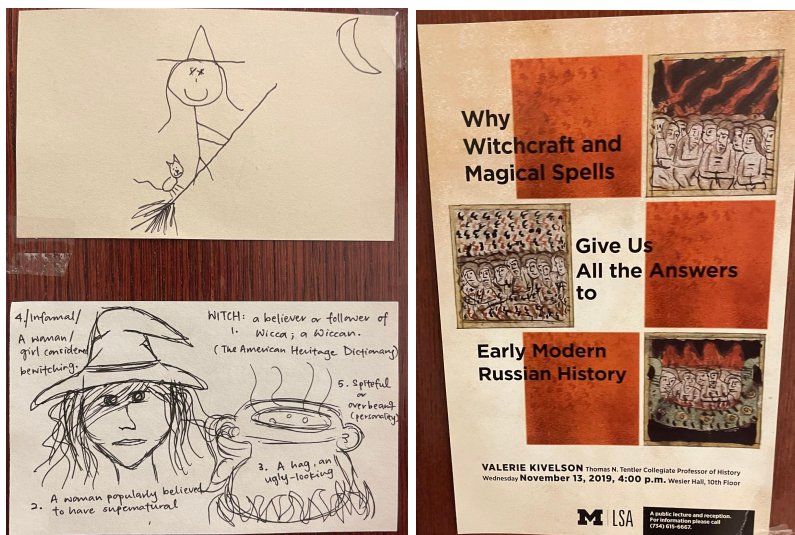


Another subset had a focus on indigenous rights, showcasing, as you can see, art and artifacts of culture. At the same time, these things also allude to the Native American Studies program in the American Culture department.



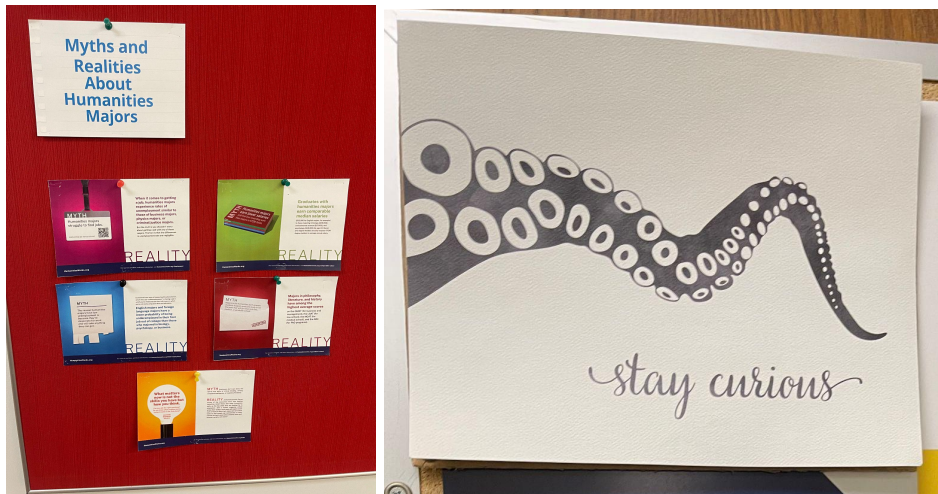
Yet others have a focus on Latine culture, Islamic culture, and all sorts of other cultural groups, including the various ways these groups can intermingle and overlap. These sorts of posters and door decorations were common in the American Culture department, where faculty seemed to enjoy representing their foci within American Culture. I found myself wondering if some people would see these artifacts and realize, eyes wide and full of wonder, just how broad the adjective “American” can truly be.

The next three pages or so are all pictures relating to activism.





Some (though few depicted here) of the door decorations I managed to find were more silly or educational than political. These were also interesting to see, especially for someone like me who regularly needs a break from seeing the news.



These gave me a bit of a break to just breathe and not have to worry about what's been in the news recently. In a wave of ongoing tragedies and terrifying current events, a brief break for humor can save lives.