

MUSLIM STUDENT ASSOCIATION CLEARED?

By Malcolm A. Kline

Ubiquitous on American college and university campuses, the Muslim Student Association (MSA) is so high-profile that the group has drawn the attention of federal investigators. In early 2004, the U. S. Senate Finance Committee asked the IRS to investigate the MSA and a host of other groups for possible links to terrorism.

Although the IRS portion of the investigation is complete, congressional aides are still examining data on the organizations. Late last year, *The Washington Post* declared that the groups under investigation "cleared."

The chairman of the Senate Finance Committee begged to differ. "The fact that the Committee has taken no public action based on a review of these documents does not mean that these groups have been 'cleared' by the committee," Sen. Charles Grassley, R-Iowa, stated. "The reason for requesting these records was to gather information for the purpose of oversight and possible legislation."

"Therefore, the Committee will continue to gather information and examine the operations of the charities that have been designated or listed by the Treasury Department's Office of Foreign Assets Control and similar charities that come to the committee's attention, as well as conduct oversight on the related activities of law enforcement and intelligence agencies, such as whether the

agencies are adequately sharing information that could lead to the policing of inappropriate activity."

The news comes on the heels of poll results of a recent survey by the Muslim Public Affairs Council (MPAC). The MPAC survey found that Muslim youth rely heavily on mosques for information.

"On the topic of 'Islamic educational' sources and priorities, 42 % of respondents reported that their primary source of Islamic education was a mosque, while 27% identified their home as their primary source of education," the MPAC survey found. "Similarly, 56% rely primarily on the Qur'an and Hadith (traditions of Prophet Muhammad) for their Islamic knowledge, and 14 % rely on a local religious spiritual head."

"Roughly one-third (34 %) of respondents reported attending Islamic classes and/or events at least twice each week." The survey was taken at the Islamic Society of North America (ISNA)'s annual convention for 2005 in Chicago. As we reported last year, the ISNA was created by the Muslim Student Association and is also under investigation by the Senate Finance Committee.

The reliance on mosques may be somewhat problematic. The radical Wahhabi sect, through Saudi Arabian officials and royalty, exerts great control over these temples. Terrorism expert Stephen Schwartz outlined the parameters of Saudi-Wahhabi control

over/support of U. S. mosques for a U. S. Senate Committee a couple of years ago.

"Rather, Wahhabi control over mosques means control of property, buildings, appointment of imams, training of imams, content of preaching—including faxing of Friday sermons from Riyadh, Saudi Arabia—and of literature distributed in mosques and mosque bookstores, notices on bulletin boards, and organizational solicitation," Schwartz testified. "Similar influence extends to prison and military chaplaincies, Islamic elementary and secondary schools (academies), college campus activity, endowment of academic chairs and programs in Middle East Studies, and most notoriously, charities ostensibly helping Muslims abroad, many of which have been linked to or designated as sponsors of terrorism."

Schwartz has served as the director of the Islam and Democracy program at the Foundation for the Defense of

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Politically Correct Pilgrims

“Officials in Provincetown, Mass., voted to remove a large painting that depicts the Pilgrims voting on the Mayflower Compact.” According to World Views, “selectwoman Sarah Peak motioned to have the painting, which has hung in the board’s meeting hall for at least 60 years, removed from display on the grounds that no women are depicted and the sole Indian is shown holding a tomahawk, not a ballot. The fact that no women or Indians participated in the Mayflower vote did not seem to matter to the three selectmen (out of four) who voted in favor of the motion.”



Original Research

If you want to make a name for yourself in the world of academic research these days, creativity would appear to be more important than traditional scholarship.

Michele White, an assistant communications prof at Tulane University, who’s currently on loan to U.C. Santa Cruz, did just that, according to WiredCampusblog. Prof. White noted that “pointer icons, depicted as pointing hands on most computer programs, are almost always white.”

“Such iconography presents a view of the Internet that assumes that users are white, said the professor, adding that this “reinforces notions that white hands are the ones in control.”

She described her observa-

tions at a recent conference of the Association of Internet Researchers in Chicago, during a session on race and technology. Calling the white hand an example of “racing the interface,” Prof. White said that such cues “really tell us who we are and ... who’s invited.”



Guiliani No, Harvard Yes

Remember that Saudi prince who tried to convince former New York Mayor Rudy Guiliani to accept a \$10 million check to fund a charity for those who died in the World Trade Center attacks?

Rudy turned him down flat, but others were apparently more than happy to accept a handout from the Saudi billionaire.

The New York Times recently reported that both Harvard and Georgetown Universities had received \$20 million dollar donations from Prince Alwaleed bin Talal bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, a businessman and member of the Saudi royal family, to finance Islamic studies.

Harvard provost Steven E. Hyman said that considering Harvard’s position in the world, “it is critical ... to have a strong program on Islam that is worldwide and interdisciplinary in scope...”

In response to its windfall, Harvard announced plans to “create a university-wide program on Islamic studies, recruit new faculty members in the field,...and convert rare Islamic texts into digital formats...”

Georgetown said it would

“use the gift... to expand its Center for Muslim - Christian Understanding...and re-name it the H.R.H. Prince Alwaleed bin Talal Center for Muslim - Christian Understanding.”



Rosa Park Footnote

Jon Ray, of pcwatch.blogspot.com says that after the death of Rosa Parks, it is worth noting that there were some “glaring omissions about her life.” Although “it was a courageous act to refuse to sit in the back of the bus, this was not a spontaneous act on her part, although it may not be politically correct to point this out.”

Rosa Parks, who was the secretary of the local NAACP, attended three consecutive summer training programs at a local school whose “original purpose was to train Communist activists on how to promote textile strikes.”

A photo of Parks, sitting with Martin Luther King in the front row of one of these training classes “makes the story that she was just a ‘poor tired black seamstress’ when she sat in the front of the bus is a complete lie,” says Jon Ray.

Only politically incorrect history texts will tell the truth—i.e. that “Rosa Parks, the Civil Rights heroine, was a Communist agitator.” When school children on field trips visit an old city bus, like the one Parks rode on, at the Rosa Parks Museum in Montgomery, AL, a “harsh record-

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ed voice tells all blacks to move to the back. This is deliberately designed to instill feelings of guilt and self-hate in white children.”



World's First Intolerance-Free University

Jeff Lindsay is a chemical engineer in Appleton, Wisconsin, whose blogging hobby has produced some clever prose on the subject of political correctness.

In Jeff's world, the (cynical) pinnacle of academic greatness is his very own invention, the Scientific and Technical University for Politically Intelligent Development, or S.T.U.P.I.D.

“We're proud of our diver-

sity, says Lindsay on his website, adding that this was the first university in the country to “ensure that every traffic sign on campus was printed in 5 languages, and marked in Braille.”

To ensure that students excel in physics, Jeff's “school” features “real world physics,” in the form of courses like the following:

“Contributions of the Vertically Challenged in Physics,” the study of how “repressive social norms” forced famous “vertically challenged” physicists like Newton, Galileo and Einstein to appear “vertically gifted in order to maintain credibility with the masses.”

“Quantum Mechanics: Contributions of Indigenous Peoples,” a course which attempts

to rectify past wrongs by discussing the contributions to quantum mechanics by groups like the Aleutian Indians and Australian Aborigines.

“White Male Oppression in Nuclear Physics”— How white males have adopted the rhetoric of physics as a class warfare weapon

“A d v a n c e d Psychophysics”— a series of self-empowerment sessions to increase cosmic awareness through the use of Tarot cards, Ouija boards and altered states of consciousness.

“Gaia: The Atomic Mother”— a course revealing how Gaia originates at the atomic level to influence universal karma “Feng Shui Physics”—a subject explored at the outset via the “qi optimization, especially in kitchens and bathrooms.”



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Democracies. As Schwartz tells it, the Saudi Wahhabis are able to exert a greater degree of authority over mosques in the United States than the Pope does over the Catholic Church in America.

“At the present time, Shia and other non-Wahhabi community leaders estimate that 80 percent of American mosques are under Wahhabi control,” Schwartz reported. “This does not mean 80 percent of American Muslims support Wahhabism, although the main Wahhabi ideological agency in America, the so-called Council on American Islamic Relations (CAIR), has claimed that some 70 percent of American Muslims

want Wahhabi teaching in their mosques.”

“This is a claim we consider unfounded.” More troublesome is the reliance on the Haddith, a somewhat mystical set of principles. When I asked Dr. Hatem Bazian, the U Cal Berkeley professor who called for an Intifada in the United States, about an incendiary quote attributed to him, he said it was from the Hadith and not something that he would say.

“The Day of Judgment will not happen until the trees and the stones will say, ‘Oh Muslim, there is a Jew behind me, come and kill him,’” the Detroit News quoted Dr. Bazian as saying in 1999. “As

to the quote that you ask about, ‘the Day of Judgment,’ it is a Hadith of the Prophet which appears in the collection of al-Bukhari,” Dr. Bazian explained. “A Hadith is a statement, action, consent on the statement or action of someone else by the Prophet.”

“I don't engage in discussions or talk concerning the ‘Day of Judgment’ as it is not an area of interest for me.” Since that time, I have been unable to obtain confirmation or denial of Dr. Bazian's assertion.

Malcolm A. Kline is the executive director of Accuracy in Academia

DIRECTOR'S CORNER

By Malcolm A. Kline



February, 2006

Dear Reader,

Happy Valentine's Day! In our last dispatch we updated you on our conversation/confrontation with lobbyists for the Association of Independent Colleges & Universities in Pennsylvania (AICUP) when we took part in a conference call with an assemblyman from the Keystone state.

The AICUP lobbyists insisted on a "bright yellow line" that would exempt their association's members from any Academic Bill Of Rights (ABOR) that the Pennsylvania House of Representatives passed. ABOR is a brain-child of author and activist David Horowitz, the founder of Students for Academic Freedom.

AICUP's lobbyists insisted that their member schools were concerned about any government interference in their workaday world. And well they might be: of the 83 "private" colleges and universities that belong to the association, only one receives no government funding—Grove City College. Perhaps not so coincidentally, Grove City is the only institution of higher learning in the state of Pennsylvania that we can recommend to parents and college-bound high school seniors without reservation.

As it happens, Accuracy in Academia has covered the academic affairs of ten percent of AICUP's membership. In so doing, AIA found precious little evidence of academic freedom or viewpoints presented:

- "In the social sciences there were 12 Democrats for every Republican, and in the humanities, the ratio was an even more staggering 23:1," Nate Sartell of Bucknell University writes. Sartell published his findings in *The Counterweight*, a publication of the Bucknell University Conservatives Club.

- At Elizabethtown College, my friend Wes McDonald had been threatened with removal by colleagues because of one of his after-hours pursuits—writing op-eds. A change of administration saved the professor, who is one of the few identifiable conservatives on campus.

A student from Berkeley recently accused us of being "under-educated hillbillies" while left-wing bloggers claim we have a "one-sided view of accuracy." Well, if you define accuracy as an account of something that happened, then you either accurately report what happened or inaccurately deny it. Many academics seem to have a hard time with this concept. With your help and support, we can bring this idea home to them, so that their students will not have to travel far from campus to find accurate information.

Cordially,



Mal Kline
Executive director