

“It is an affront to treat falsehood with complacency.” Thomas Paine

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GRADUATES CHASE GREEN JOBS

By: Malcolm A. Kline

But where are they?

Colleges and universities are promising graduates “green jobs” at the end of their education, secure in the knowledge that if they fail to materialize, schools won’t be liable for damages under Truth in Advertising laws.

Google the phrase “college programs for green jobs” and you get more than four million results. “Green Jobs are a growth industry,” the University of Maryland promises in a recent advertisement. “Today’s fastest growing job opportunities are green.”

“Companies need professionals who can improve corporate safety, efficiency and compliance with government regulations. Be ready, with a bachelor’s or master’s degree or a certificate in environmental management from University of Maryland University College (UMUC).”

Note the way they dangle the master’s program, just in case a bachelor’s or certificate don’t get you in the door. Yet the door you are trying to get a foot in may not be the only opening that is hard to find.

“A report delivered by the Council of Economic Advisers today found that the clean energy investments of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) are not only creating jobs today, but for the future,” Heather Zichal asserted in a White House blog on January 14, 2010. “The clean energy provisions of ARRA alone have already saved or created 63,000 jobs and are expected to create more than 700,000 by 2012.” Zichal is Deputy Assistant to the President for Energy and Climate Change.

“Yes, but getting these jobs is burning a hole in the national wallet,” Sean Higgins wrote in an Investor’s Business Daily blog on Jan. 08, 2010. “The problem is that even advocates like Obama concede that these programs are not very cost-effective in creating jobs.”

“Obama says the grants will create 17,000 cleantech jobs. Well, get out your calculator. \$2.3 billion for

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17,000 jobs equals \$135,294 per job. (And that's not including the eventual interest on this deficit spending). Those green jobs had better pay well over six figures to justify that expense."

"Not to worry, the administration has a plan to solve this, too. It wants Congress to approve another \$5 billion for 'tens of thousands' more green jobs." But that was before one House of Congress changed hands.

Meanwhile, the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) is still looking for the green jobs. "The goal of the BLS green jobs initiative is to develop information on (1) the number of and trend over time in green jobs, (2) the industrial, occupational, and geographic distribution of the jobs, and (3) the wages of the workers in these jobs," the federal agency website claims. "The resulting information will be useful for evaluating policy initiatives and the labor market impact of economic activity related to protecting the environment and conserving natural resources."

"BLS activities also will be useful to State labor market information offices in their efforts to meet the information needs of policymakers, businesses, and job seekers." Note the use of the future tense.

"Highly credible sources, such as the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Specialist in Labor Economics at the Congressional Research Service, confirm that there is no coherent definition of a green job," Andrew Morriss, William T. Bogart, Roger E. Meiners, and Andrew Drochak note in *The False Promise of Green Energy*, a book published by the Cato Institute.

The evidence on private sector jobs lost when green jobs are gained is scant but available. Thus far in Spain and Newton, Iowa, locals found that the economy lost two private sector jobs for every green job gained.

"According to one study from King Juan Carlos University in Madrid, the Spanish government has created jobs at the rate of \$775,000 per job with subsidies, more than twice the estimated amount for job creation through private industry investment (\$350,000 per job)," Ditley Engel and Daniel M. Kam-

men admit in their study for the Copenhagen Climate Council. "However, neither green job studies nor their critiques typically include avoided environmental costs or other potential benefits (less imported fossil fuel, reduced health care costs, etc.) that would favor green job programs."

"Longer-term costs are difficult to quantify with uncertainties in their magnitude, attribution and timing but have the prospect for catastrophic irremediable damages." Engel, the CEO at Vestas Wind Systems, and Kammen, a professor at Berkeley would be interesting to contact when college graduates face Future Shock in the job market.

Verso Economics found that in Great Britain "for every job created in the UK in renewable energy, 3.7 jobs are lost. In Scotland there is no benefit from government support for the sector, and probably a small net loss of jobs." A consulting firm, Verso Economics has compiled studies for a number of clients, private and public. The latter grouping includes the European Commission and Scottish government agencies.

"A major example of this dilemma occurred in Newton, Iowa, where President Obama visited on Earth Day to tout green jobs at a new wind turbine plant," Sens. James Inhofe, R-OK, and Kit Bond, R-MO., reported on April 27, 2009. "During the visit, the President noted that new green jobs replaced manufacturing jobs where a Maytag plant closed."

"However, he did not mention that only 700 jobs paying \$13 per hour replaced the 1,800 jobs paying \$20 an hour plus health care." Sens. Inhofe and Bond both serve on the U. S. Senate Environment and Public Works Committee.



SQUEAKY CHALK

by Deborah Lambert



HEAD START A NON-STARTER

The national budget cutting mood has caused some of government's most sacred cows to fall by the wayside in favor of cutting our massive deficits. But some things go beyond sacred. They are sacrosanct.

Take Head Start, for example, the program launched during Lyndon Johnson's Great Society heyday back in 1965. Ever since then, it's been touted, praised and coddled as an effort sent from heaven above to improve the lives of impoverished, inner city children by exposing them to learning at an early age.

But according to the Pittsburgh Tribune Review and other sources, Head Start, "the \$9 billion program that serves about 900,000 low-income children," has not undergone any statistical evaluation to determine its effectiveness for children entering grade school.

In fact, "a new study by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services reveals that \$167.5 billion later (in 2009 dollars) Head Start has been a non-starter for children. That it took the feds more than 40 years for a proper analysis suggests it's the *spending* that matters, not results."

And yet Congress is moving ahead to increase early childhood education programs with \$8 billion in *new* spending.



EASTER EGGS VS. SPRING SPHERES



When a high school sophomore in Seattle, Washington decided to do some volunteer work this spring at a local public elementary school as a community service project, she received an unexpected education in politically correct attitudes being taught in the third grade, according to MyNorthwest.com.

Jessica, 16, called into a local KIRO radio talk show to report that after a school meeting where she learned of the school's "abstract behavior rules," she asked the teacher if she could fill baskets with eggs and jellybeans for the children at the end of the week.

The teacher's response was that this project would be approved only if Jessica called the treat "spring spheres" instead of Easter eggs.

When the teacher showed the candy treats to the kids, she said: "Oh look, spring spheres, and all the

kids were like 'Wow, Easter eggs.'"

Seattle is apparently pulling out all the stops in order to override "Easter" with "Spring" or remove it altogether. "The city's parks department has removed Easter from all of its advertised egg hunts."



WHITE PRIVILEGE, AT TAXPAYER EXPENSE

The National Review recently reported that while one Minnesota school district has laid off more than 90 teachers, the same school sent a group of teachers to an annual "White Privilege Conference" on the taxpayers' dime.

"This will cost the district \$160 a day for each teacher plus \$125 a day for the substitutes who will handle their classes while they are away, learning 'how white privilege, white supremacy, and oppression affect daily life.' Other cash-strapped districts also sent delegations."

This year's keynote speaker was Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz, "who was part of the Venceremos Brigade in Cuba . . . Last year's speaker recommended looking to Hugo Chavez's Venezuela for 'exciting progressive developments.' The sponsors of this educational event include the University of Minnesota," "Hamline University, Gustavus Adolphus College," and "Augsburg College, among others."



CHICAGO SCHOOL MANDATES SCHOOL LUNCH

In case you haven't noticed, some schools have declared an all-out war on the kind of food our children can eat. The latest episode that received national attention is a school on Chicago's West Side that has banned students from bringing their lunches from home.

Although the policy has been in effect for six years, some students have finally had enough. The Chicago Tribune, reported that when 7th grader Fernando Dominguez recently shouted to lunch mates, "Who thinks the lunch is not good enough?, numerous hands reached for the ceiling." Then Dominguez led a chant, saying: "We should bring our own lunch! We should bring our own lunch!"

SQUEAKY CHALK

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School principal Elsa Carmona says that her decision was based on the nutritious food that the school provides vs. what students would typically bring from home. However, the effect, according to the Tribune, has been that “any school that bans homemade lunches also puts more money into the pockets of the school lunch provider.” Also in this case, fewer students are eating the meals.

A recent observer at the school reported that while most students took the meal offered at lunchtime, dozens of them tossed most of the meals into the trash.

J. Justin Wilson from the Washington-based Center for Consumer Freedom, views this decision as a “fundamental infringement on parental responsibility,” and a typical example of the “one-size-fits-all mandate on nutrition that fails time and time again.”



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS INVITE HERESY

by Malcolm A. Kline

Catholic high school graduates hoping to continue their education in institutions of higher learning affiliated with the Mother Church might be surprised by what they find. “University of Detroit Mercy, a Catholic college, is coming under criticism for hosting pro-abortion censured theologian Daniel Maguire, who delivered a lecture at the Jesuit University on April 7,” Steve Ertelt reported on lifenews.com April 13, 2011. “The title of his lecture was ‘The Gender Justice Revolution: How Feminism Builds Bridges Between Genders, Races, Sexual Orientations, Classes and Nations,’ and it’s not a surprising one given his position in favor of abortion.”

The Cardinal Newman Society (CNS) pointed out in March 2007 that when the bishops censured Marquette theologian Maguire, they noted that his teachings “cross the legitimate lines of theological reflection and simply enter into the area of false teaching.”

“Nice guy, smart but has some extreme views, he does not push his views on you and does welcome disagreement, gives you exam questions in advance so only homework is reading and formulating answers for questions, no daily homework,” one reviewer wrote of Maguire on ratemyprofessors.com. Marquette president Robert Wild, S. J., in responding to concerns laid out by CNS, admitted that Maguire’s teachings are “not totally consonant with Catholic teaching.”

Meanwhile, another rating on that site gave an indication of just how over-the-top Maguire’s lectures can get. “Maguire is a theologian and therefore he is qualified to teach theology,” a dissident reviewer wrote. “Unfortunately, religion takes a backseat to his socialist ranting which—I must admit—can be entertaining.”

“As the semester progresses it becomes clear that Maguire is a little too pleased with himself. This becomes sickly when he lampoons Mother Teresa and the Catholic Church.”

Meantime, also this spring, “Students at La Salle University in Philadelphia say exotic dancers were part of a professor’s extra-credit symposium on business ethics,” CBS and the Associated Press reported. “Officials at the private Roman Catholic school say they are investigating the March 21 seminar, which ended abruptly after the business school’s dean showed up.”

“Students say the dancers kept their clothes on. Sophomore Brad Bernardino tells WPVI-TV that one dancer gave a lap dance to assistant management professor Jack Rappaport. La Salle spokesman Joseph Donovan would not comment on Rappaport’s status while the investigation continues. Students say they have a new teacher.”

At least La Salle fired him. As of this writing, Maguire remains on the payroll at Marquette and is apparently welcome on the Catholic college lecture circuit.

Endnotes: Catholic Boston College’s School of Theology and Ministry welcomes visitors to its campus with a statue of Gandhi. Has the Church run out of saints?

Terry Eagleton, a visiting professor at Notre Dame, has written an essay “In Praise of Marx” for The Chronicle Review. The Guardian describes the former Oxford don as “a Catholic turned Marxist from a working class background.” Unfortunately, the Marx he is praising is not Groucho or any of his bothers.

ALFRED KAHN REMEMBERED

by James F. Davis



Alfred Kahn recently died. He was most known for being President Jimmy Carter's head of the Civil Aeronautics Board (CAB) when it began the deregulation of the airline industry in 1977-78. He was my Economics professor at Cornell University in the late 1960s.

Although he was not particularly fond of unregulated competition, he ended up deregulating the airline industry. It is thanks to him that we have much lower airfares today.

What is really ironic is that Kahn was not a conservative. He was a big government Keynesian liberal. Yet, when given the facts, he saw the need to deregulate the industry. Thus his greatest professional economic success came about by abandoning his liberal Keynesian principles and adopting Austrian School free market principles.

President Carter later asked Kahn to be Chairman of the Council on Wage and Price Stability because inflation was on its way to being the highest in U. S. history. Kahn acknowledged his attempts to regulate wages, prices and inflation were a failure as they had been with FDR and Nixon.

At one point he was admonished by President Carter for suggesting in a speech that the continuation of Carter's economic interventionist policies would lead to a "depression." The next day a reporter asked Kahn a question which required him to restate what President Carter had told him, and would cost him his job if he did.

Kahn, always the honest showman, replied that if the economic policies were continued, the U. S. would experience the biggest "banana" we had ever seen. He

later changed the word to "kumquat" when banana producers objected.

Kahn was right. Jimmy Carter left office with the highest inflation in memory and the highest unemployment rate since Franklin D. Roosevelt. Yet the professor did not appear to notice that he espoused many of the liberal policies that caused the economic problems.

I only spoke to Professor Kahn twice. He tended to lecture without notes and pace back and forth similar to Groucho Marx with his hands behind his back.

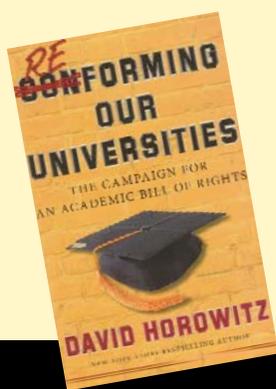
Fifteen minutes into one lecture he noticed a glazed look on student faces, stopped and asked me, since I was sitting in the front row, "Is this Economics 420?" I replied, "No, Economics 355." He quickly said, "I am so sorry. Let me start again."

The second time I spoke to him was at a class reunion in 2002. After a lecture in which he spoke about bringing prominent economists back to Cornell, I asked him if he had asked Thomas Sowell, arguably Cornell's most published and famous former economics faculty member.

It was the only time I ever saw Professor Kahn look sheepishly insecure. He replied, "Tom had issues here." Thomas Sowell is a free market conservative economist and such intellectuals are not welcomed at Cornell or just about any other university in the USA.

Is it any wonder that the U. S. is in economic decline when the only economic principles that have consistently helped raise the standard of living of people, when applied, are not taught in nearly any institution of higher learning in the USA?

James F. Davis is the president of Accuracy in Academia.



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SHARING PRODUCTIVITY @ CAP

by Richard Thornburgh



The current economic downturn that has plagued the middle and lower class workforce sees little sign of a turn-around. But, several experts on economics and the labor force have proposed an alternative management model that focuses on productivity of the worker rather than overall corporate success.

Sponsored by the Center for American Progress, “Inclusive Capitalism for the American Workforce” focused on experiments that businesses have recently implemented with positive results for the middle class. Richard Freeman of Harvard University, along with Joseph Blasi and Douglas Kruse, both of Rutgers University, wrote the proposal, which has yet to be formally endorsed by CAP.

The principle of their proposal, specifically targeted to those affected by the recession, is that employees will be fairly compensated for their work effort through incentive systems created by companies. In other words, when a company is doing well, people at the top of the hierarchy earn the most money because of performance bonuses. But, when companies perform poorly, the lower end of the hierarchy is cut, while executives usually receive less of a bonus that still gives them large sums of money.

For this incentive program to work in America, U. S. Rep. Keith Ellison, D-Minn., said we need actual progress that includes an evidence-based policy signed into law. He said that, “our [financial] problem is found in policy and decision making...we made the

problem, and we’re going to have to fix it with policy.”

Another aspect of this academic proposal is to provide stock options for all employees, regardless of their position in a company. Congressman Ellison said that because shareholders rarely know what’s getting done in a company, “we need to make the workers and employees the shareholders.”

Thomas Conway of the United Steelworkers agreed that low-salaried employees are the core of companies, but he said for them to gain more money through performance-based incentive, they need to be given all the performance facts of that company. He said, “You need to look at the entire enterprise, question if it makes sense, and produce studies with specific numbers.” By doing so, he said success will be inevitable because, “employees can then trust their companies and *want* to work for them.”

(One way to test these proposals would be to see how well they work in academia with graduate students vis-à-vis full professors;)-ed.)

Richard Thornburgh is an intern at the American Journalism Center, a training program run by Accuracy in Media and Accuracy in Academia.

But what a bed

Princeton “spent \$136 million on a new 500-bed dorm, or \$277,000 per bed, which is more than \$70,000 more than the current median home price.”—Andrew Gillen, *A Tuition Bubble: Lessons from the Housing Bubble* (Center for College Affordability and Productivity)

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DIRECTOR'S CORNER



By Malcolm A. Kline

May, 2011

Dear Reader,

We did our cover story in order to give college graduates a clearer indication of what they are in for when they start pounding the pavements than their college placement offices are likely to. That government regulations such as the ones that generate so-called “green jobs” could actually kill more employment than they create is a possibility that denizens of academia do not even try to comprehend.

That the research behind such rules wouldn't pass muster in a competitive sixth-grade science fair is another probability that those in the Ivory Tower ignore. Since the architects of university “sustainability” policies never had to meet a payroll in their lives, these elites never had to trouble themselves with such pedestrian concerns.

Being pedestrians ourselves, we do get concerned about the costs and benefits of government regulations. Since you also pay for them, we thought you might be interested as well.

“Federal regulations cost even more than the skyrocketing federal budget deficit and help bring the federal government's share of the economy to over 35 percent,” the Competitive Enterprise Institute found. The Phoenix Center for Advanced Legal & Economic Public Policy Studies found that every federal regulator agency employee eliminates 98 private sector jobs.

Meanwhile, in Great Britain, which often precedes the U. S. in its policies and practices, Britons are literally feeling the pain of unscientific environmental regulations. “Barely twelve months after its Meteorological Office said the 2009-10 winter was the coldest in three decades, Britain endured its coldest December-January since 1683,” Paul Driessen, author of *Eco-Imperialism: Green power - Black death*, notes. “Because the United Kingdom's ultra green energy policies have driven heating costs into the stratosphere, British pensioners rode buses or spent all day in libraries to stay warm, then shivered all night in their apartments.”

“Tens of thousands risked hypothermia, trying to control costs by bundling up and turning the heat down or off. Many died. “

Meanwhile, “David Lobell, a Stanford University researcher predicts that a 1°C rise in average temperature will reduce yields across two thirds of maize (corn) growing regions of Africa ([The Economist](#); accessed April 12, 2011),” according to The African Executive, an electronic report. “This gives credit to United Nation's quest to reduce global temperatures by 2°C by 2020 ([VOA](#); accessed April 12, 2011).”

“Threats from effects of Climate Change have pushed developed nations to adopt strategies that compromise food security in poor countries. “

All the best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mal Kline'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Mal Kline
Executive Director

Voodoo Anyone?

How to Understand Economics Without Really Trying



by

Christopher T. Warden

Forewords by M. Stanton Evans & Malcolm A. Kline



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