

*"It is an affront to treat falsehood with complacency."* Thomas Paine

# CAMPUS REPORT

December 2011 | Volume XXVI, number 12



## 100 ARGUMENTS AGAINST TENURE

*By: Malcolm A. Kline*

An Accuracy in Academia  
Special Report

**D**rawn from the profiles we've done of professors so far this year, we offer the following VIPs as proof that tenure doesn't work:

1. **Michelle Ann Abate**, California State University-Northridge, for deconstructing comic books.
2. **Silvia Allegretto** of Berkeley, for her failure to recognize that people vote with their feet when moving out of big government states.
3. **Brian K. Arbour**, John Jay Criminal College, who said, "Sociologists have identified an emerging new ethnic population of 'unhyphenated Americans,' those whites who claim an 'American' ancestry, or none at all."
4. **Scott Atran**, John Jay Criminal College and University of Michigan, for claiming that "Egyptian protestors accomplished in 18 days what Al Qaeda failed to do in more than 18 years: topple a core regime of the Arab world," about a regime that has made attacks upon Israel typical for the first time in three decades.
5. **Sandra Babcock**, Northwestern University, for defending terrorists and/or trying to impose international law upon the United States.
6. **John Banzhaf**, George Washington University, for enlisting his students in his quixotic class-action lawsuits, whether they want to or not.
7. **Michael S. Berkman** and **Eric Plutzer** from Penn State University, two political scientists who feel compelled to offer guidelines on how actual science should be taught.
8. **Barbara G. Brents**, University of Nevada-Las Vegas sociologist, with a consuming interest in Nevada's legal brothels and an interesting array of visiting speakers to her classroom.
9. **Father Stephen Brown** of St. Leo University, who urged the university's Catholic students to fast for Ramadan but not to feel compelled to give something up for Lent.

*continued on page 3*

# Director's Corner

By Malcolm A. Kline, Executive Director of AIA



December 2011

Dear Reader,

Merry Christmas!

Our reporting on academia, as this issue of our newsletter indicates, usually involves playing a variation of the blame game. (By the way, you can read full profiles on all of the professors listed in our featured study on our website—[www.academia.org](http://www.academia.org).) Nevertheless, we also try to give credit where credit is due. Either way, we try to follow where the information leads us without attempting to massage the facts.

One professor who we have covered unfavorably in the past, for example, actually had some perceptive things to say in an essay which appeared in *The Chronicle Review* on November 18, 2011. Comparing the Occupy Wall Street movement with which he is sympathetic to the TEA parties he is not copasetic with, Illinois State University historian Andrew Hartman notes that:

- “Tea Party conservatives believe that individuals are responsible for their own successes and failures.” And
- “In contrast, Occupy Wall Street activists seem to believe inequality is historically and socially structured and, thus, as things now stand, that most individuals have little say over their life chances.”

That’s certainly a more dispassionate reading of both than most of the professor’s peers would probably ever give. Holding the professoriate accountable for what they say and do is our mission.

We go about our work for you and could not do it without the support which you have most generously given us.

All the best,

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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*continued from front page*

10. **Anthony Carnevale** of Georgetown, who predicted jobs from nowhere.
11. **Francesco Crocco** who teaches creative writing at the City University of New York and guides his class through a class struggle version of the board game Monopoly.
12. **Scott Denham** of Davidson, who tried to expel a student from the college for his political opinions, and used the school newspaper as his means of communicating that wish.
13. **Scott Denning**, Colorado State University, who ignores the science, or lack thereof, connected to global warming.
14. **John Dinges** at Columbia, who brings a career of left-wing journalism at The Washington Post to his current posting in the school of journalism.
15. **E. J. Dionne**, still at the Post, who covers, or covers for, the Obama Administration on his day job there and his after-hours gig teaching at Georgetown
16. **Linda Dittmar**, University of Massachusetts-Boston, for her blatant advocacy of art as a political weapon.
17. **Bernardine Dohrn**, Northwestern—although her



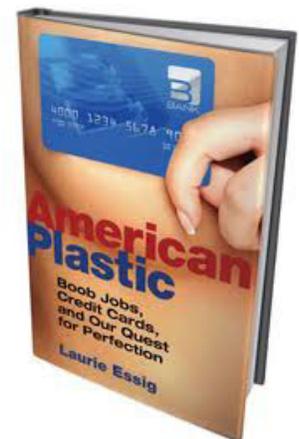
husband, Bill Ayers, gave up the daily college grind, the weather girl is still at it.

18. **Jennifer Doyle**, University of California-Riverside, who theorizes that the problem with women's sports is that there are not enough lesbians playing them.
19. **Peter Edelman**, Georgetown Law School, who thinks

he's found the cause of the breakdown of the American family—prison.

20. **Christopher Edley** of Berkeley, who tries to blame classroom trends on the class struggle.
21. **Thomas B. Edsall** at the Columbia School of Journalism, for whom media bias is a fait accompli.
22. **Terry Eagleton** of Notre Dame, who compared the 9/11 attacks upon the United States to the U. S. effort in the Vietnam War.
23. Former surgeon general, **Joycelyn Elders**, now at the University of Minnesota Medical School, who endorsed teaching masturbation to kids during the Clinton Administration.
24. **James Engell** of Harvard who showed why English professors should avoid economics when he noted that dropouts caused by rising college costs are “[reinforcing] the widening income gap in the United States” and “[portending] a society which is less democratic.”
25. **Joseph Entin**, Brooklyn College (see #16, Linda Dittmar)

26. **Laurie Essig**, University of Vermont, the author of *American Plastic: Boob Jobs, Credit Cards, and Our Quest for Perfection*, “a critique of neoliberal capitalism through cosmetic surgery,” as her web site puts it, and *Queer in Russia: A Story of Sex, Self, and the Other* (Duke University Press, 1999).



27. **Jack Doppelt** of Medill, author of *The Journalism of Outrage: Investigative Reporting and Agenda Building in America*, who runs three web sites—ImmigrantConnect.org, Immigration Here & There, and On The Docket
28. **Howard French**, Columbia U, who moonlights at George Soros's Open Society.

*continued on page 4*

29. **Todd Gitlin**, Columbia U: From Students for a Democratic Society to the Journalism School there is not so great a leap.

30. **Steven Gortmaker**, a health sociologist at Harvard, who uses obesity as a reason to call for higher taxes.

31. Columbia professor **Jamal Greene**, who mangles the story of George Washington's teeth while dazzling us with his historical expertise.

32. **Donald E. Hall** of West Virginia University-Morgantown is looking for a way to queerly administer colleges.

33. **Scott Herring**, Indiana U-Bloomington, for resurrection of "hillbilly porn" that apparently only he watched.

34. **Ashlee Humphreys** of the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University, gets academic about casino gambling.

35. **Gene Andrew Jarrett** of Boston University, finds literary value in communist organizer and Obama mentor, Frank Marshall Davis.

36. **Russell Jacoby** of the University of California-Los Angeles, tries to numerically deconstruct the 9/11 attacks upon the United States.

37. **Harry Jenkins** of the University of Southern California noted at the MLA conference early this year that "The Tea Party movement represents itself as resistance; the KKK represents itself as resistance."

38. **Steven Knapp** of George Washington University whose board literally made the GWU president a million-dollar man

39. **Van Jones** may have been too left-wing to work in the Obama White House but his ideology made him a perfect fit for Princeton.



40. **Wayne Koestenbaum** of New York University wants to break out of queer studies but doesn't want to talk about

much else.

41. **James Kurth**, Swarthmore University managed to work conservatism and communism into the same sentence, and not as mutually exclusive properties.

42. **Charles Kurzman**, sociologist, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, who, like Russell Jacoby (#5 above) tries to minimize the 9/11 tragedies numerically.

43. **George Lakoff** of Berkeley attributes a love of authority to conservatives that he seems to require of his students.



44. **Doran Larson** of Hamilton College regards cop-killer *Mumia Abu-Jamal* as a literary lion.

45. **Bianca Laureano** of College of Mount Saint Vincent offers up a history of abortion that does not gibe with the historical record.

46. **Nicholas Lemann** of the Columbia University School of Journalism assumes that conservatives want the same thing out of the evening news that the Left is already providing.

47. **Ellen Lewin** of the University of Iowa dropped the f-bomb in an e-mail to College Republicans to show the kind of civil discourse that distinguishes the academic Left today.

48. **Nelson Lichtenstein**, a labor economist at the University of California-Santa Barbara, does not see state budget deficits as a valid reason for denying unionized public employees the benefits that few taxpayers enjoy.

49. **Joseph Litvak** of Tufts University argues that the cinematic classic *Dr. Strangelove* "hyperbolizes the eroticism" of Americans obsessed with the military.

50. **Andreas Madestam** and **David Yanagizawa-Drott**, a pair of Harvard researchers who concluded that there would be fewer Republicans if it only rained more often on the Fourth of July.

51. **Daniel Maguire** of Marquette University, whose own college president admitted that the theologian's views are

“not totally consonant with Catholic teaching.”

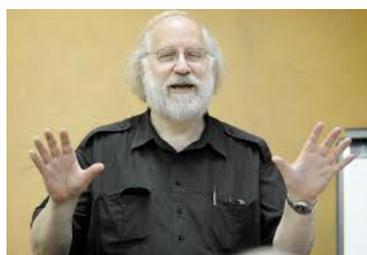
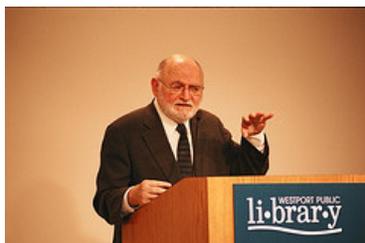
**52. John Marsh** of Penn State described why education is just not for everybody: “Some people may escape poverty and low incomes through education, but a problem arises when education becomes the only escape route from those conditions—because that road will very quickly become bottlenecked.”

**53. Paul Mattick** of Adelphi University shows how the world looks different from inside the Ivory Tower: “Just as the Great Recession has demonstrated the limits of the means set in place during the last 40 years to contain capitalism’s tendency to periodic disaster, it suggests the need finally to take seriously the idea, as the saying goes, that another world is possible.”

**54. Robert McClory**, Medill, has written an admiring account of Jeremiah Wright’s favorite guest pastor, *Radical Disciple: Father Pfleger, St. Sabina Church, and the Fight for Social Justice*;

**55. Rachel Davis Mersey**, Medill, is so egalitarian that students grade each other, at least on the group project.

**56. Victor Navasky**, of the Columbia School of Journalism, has argued that “Objectivity is Highly Overrated.”



**57. Cary Nelson**, University of Illinois-Urbana, still brags about providing “draft avoidance counseling” during the Vietnam War.

**58. Immanuel Ness** of Brooklyn College” brags about punching cops” and “broke his arm twice,” according to his students. Maybe a couple of those punches didn’t connect.

**59. Robert Novy-Marx**, University of Rochester and **Joseph D. Rauh**, Northwestern, look at exploding public pensions and see...not enough taxes.

**60. Michael Oppenheimer** of Princeton University still

sees global warming, even when temperatures drop.

**61. Manuel Pastor**, University of Southern California, likes to analyze events he doesn’t attend: “The TEA Party has done very well with the politics of anger,” Professor Manuel Pastor said at the Center for American Progress. “It is a much older white demographic worried about losing their country.”

**62. Abe Peck**, Medill, played Boswell to the Johnson of Studs Terkel who the **FBI** described as “a radio/news commentator, actor, and award-winning author. Terkel was associated with a number of communist and communist connected groups.”

**63. Marjorie Perloff**, Stanford emerita, thinks that *Dreams from My Father* is a good reason to learn to read.

**64. Monica Duffy Toft** (Harvard) , **Daniel Philpott** (Notre Dame) and **Timothy Samuel Shah** (Berkeley) offer a more clear-eyed assessment of the **Muslim Brotherhood** than most intellectuals have offered. Unfortunately, they go on to equate it with the Catholic Church.

**65. Christopher Pizzino** , University of Georgia, is another comic book scholar.

**66. Melvin Platt**, University of Missouri, managed to save his Master’s in Fine Arts program by creating more adjunct positions he could call students.

**67. Barry Popkin**, University of North Carolina, helped feed (no pun intended) news media reports on the link between sodas and obesity and the curative effect taxes on the former will have on the latter.

**68. David Protess**, Medill School (Northwestern), keeps the Medill Innocence Project going, even for the guilty.

**69. Asifa Quraishi**, University of Wisconsin Law School, offers less-than-assuring assurances of the more radical interpretations of Shariah law.

**70. Michael Reich**, Berkeley, is trying to deny that increases in the minimum wage lead to higher unemployment: “In the last several years, the minimum wage has gone up and teen unemployment has gone up quite a bit but is that causal?” **Reich**, Professor of Economics and Director of the Institute for Research on Labor and Employment,

University of California, Berkeley, said earlier this year. “We are in a recession.”

71. **Peter L. Rudnytsky**, University of Florida, reads Charles Dickens and sees...Sigmund Freud.

72. **Daniel Safi**, Colgate, derides those “intolerant” of radical Islam but may be guilty of some intolerance of his own.

73. **Tyler T. Schmidt**, Lehman College (CUNY), wants his education students to find out “what’s going on with whiteness.”

74. New York University sociologist **Richard Sennett** saw in the anniversary of the 9-11-01 attacks upon the United States an occasion to bash TEA parties.

75. NYU president **John Sexton** claims that the high cost of education is indicative of its quality.

76. **Michael Scheuer** of Georgetown University, debated himself on the pages of *The American Conservative* and lost.

77. **John D. Schwetman** of the University of Minnesota-Duluth is yet another comic-book scholar. Weren’t college students supposed to read beyond this level?

78. **Ellen Shearer**, Medill bisected a long journalism career with a stint as public affairs director for the American Federation of Teachers teachers’ union

79. **Peter Slevin**, Medill is an old favorite of Accuracy in Academia’s sister group, Accuracy In Media. In a story he filed while still at the Washington Post five years ago, “Slevin claimed in the second paragraph that the constitution ‘forbids the government to show preference for any religious denomination,’” AIM editor Cliff Kincaid pointed out. “Oh really?” Kincaid asked. “Where does it say that?” It doesn’t.

80. **Richard Somerville** of the University of California-San Diego says “we know CO2 is increasing and it’s because of humans” even though we don’t.

81. **Murray Sperber** of Berkeley actually points to largely discredited sex researcher Alfred C. Kinsey as a good argument for tenure.

82. In a course for which she was named Maryland teacher of the year, **Deborah Stearns**, of Montgomery College asks her students “to name all of the sexual terms that they know, no matter how vulgar or taboo they might be,” according to the Chronicle of Higher Education.

83. **Joseph E. Stiglitz**, Columbia University economist, blames the Iraq War for the subprime mortgage crisis but not Fannie Mae, an agency he exonerated before the fact.



84. **Margaret Stock**, University of Alaska-Anchorage imagines there’s no country.

85. **Geoffrey R. Stone** of the University of Chicago claims that “during the Cold War, as Americans were whipped up to frenzy of fear of the ‘Red Menace,’ loyalty programs, political infiltration, blacklisting, legislative investigations, and criminal prosecutions of supposed Communist ‘subversives’ and sympathizers swept the nation,” ignoring the information unearthed since then showing that there was some validity to the concerns..

86. **Cynthia Tucker** recently took a position at the University of Georgia and left *The Atlanta Journal and Constitution*. “In a discussion on immigration reform on the Chris Matthews show liberal columnist Cynthia Tucker mentioned that when Bush and the GOP controlled Congress three years ago (2007) they couldn’t get it done either,” Accuracy in Media chairman **Don Irvine** wrote on May 10, 2010. “I guess she missed the 2006 election results.”

87. **Richard Wald**, the Fred W. Friendly professor of professional practice in Media and Society at Columbia University, as an ABC news producer in the 1990s, gave the green light to the network’s hit job on the non-union Food Lion supermarket chain in which undercover union operatives manufactured evidence of unsanitary practices by the company that the network broadcast as actual.

88. **Michelle Weinberger**, Medill presented research on ‘Non-Participation in Consumption Rituals—A Christmas Story’ at the American Sociological Association Conference in August [2010],” **Medill Matters**, “a

newsletter of the faculty's research and creative/professional accomplishments" reports.

**89. John Welty**, president of Fresno State University, so anxious to pass the federal DREAM Act that he overlooked the legal status, or lack thereof, of one of the student organizers promoting it.



**90. Lawrence Weschler** of New York University predicts that "such people as will still be around in 2061 will be too busy dealing with the rampaging effects of global warming" to commemorate the anniversary of the 9/11 attacks upon the United States.

**91. Betsy West**, an associate professor of professional practice at the Columbia University School of Journalism, was one of the CBS producers fired for giving the go-ahead to the manufactured story of President Bush's combat avoidance that brought down legendary anchorman Dan Rather.

**92. Miles White**, University of Seattle, author of *From Jim Crow to Jay-Z: Race, Rap and the Performance of Masculinity*.

93. Medill's **Patti Wolter** "spent five years as the managing editor and Editor in Chief of *The Neighborhood Works*, a small advocacy magazine then-published by the Chicago-based Center for Neighborhood Technology."

**94. L. Randall Wray**, Bard College, applies think system economics to the U. S. economy.

**95. Kay R. Young** of the University of California at Santa Barbara managed to work breast-feeding into a discussion on Charles Dickens.

*Malcolm A. Kline is the Executive Director of Accuracy in Academia.*

*If you would like to comment on this article, e-mail mal.kline@academia.org*

## Scholar Multiplies Gender Studies

The degree to which scholars can get creative with math can be truly breathtaking. "How many genders or sexes are there?" Jaak Panksepp asks his students, in Stephen T. Asma's recounting in *The Chronicle Review* on October 30, 2011, fittingly the day before Halloween. "Panksepp, who is the father of affective neuroscience and currently Baily Endowed Chair of Animal Well-Being Science at Washington State University, waits patiently for them to overcome their confusion and venture the obvious answer: 'Two.'"

"No, there are at least four, and probably many more," Panksepp claims. "The standard setup is, of course, a male brain in a male body or a female brain in a female body, but we regularly find a brain-body mismatch; feminized brains in masculinized bodies and vice versa," Asma explains.

Asma himself is a professor of philosophy and a fellow of the Research Group in Mind, Science, and Culture at Columbia College in Chicago.—MAK

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