For universities, the preferred commencement speaker is always to the Left. See if you can find any conservatives, Republicans, moderates, Republicans in name only or even any liberals with one or two conservative positions among this year's line-up of commencement speakers:

University of California, Irvine — President Barack Obama

Duke University — Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Martin E. Dempsey

Harvard University — Former New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg

Lafayette College — Prime Minister of Jamaica Portia Simpson Miller

University of Maryland — Maryland Governor Martin O’Malley

University of Massachusetts Amherst — Massachusetts Governor Deval Patrick

"It is an affront to treat falsehood with complacence.” Thomas Paine

MOVE TASSEL TO LEFT

By Malcolm A. Kline

because that's where the commencement speakers are coming from

continued on page 3
Dear Reader,

In addition to the commencement speakers mentioned, courtesy of Business Insider, in our lead story, we have come across a few more recently announced notables who will speak at graduation ceremonies this year who are, well, worthy of note:

- Vice-President Joe Biden will deliver commencement addresses at both the University of Delaware and the University of South Carolina;
- Former Florida Governor Jeb Bush will speak at Arizona State University;
- U. S. Rep. Nancy “you have to pass it to find out what’s in it” Pelosi, D-Calif., will speak at the University of California at Berkeley;
- NBC’s Katie Couric, one of Sarah Palin’s media nemesis, will deliver one of the commencement addresses at American University;
- U. S. Senator John Isackson, R-Georgia, will deliver a commencement talk at the University of Georgia; and
- Samantha Power, the Obama Administration’s envoy to the UN will also deliver another commencement address at American University.

Taking this sextet and putting it together with the 22 public officials and media figures in the business insider list cited in our lead article gives us a total of 28 VIPs scheduled to hit university podia this Spring. Out of that number, we can only find a quartet of nominal Republicans.

In other words, from what we’ve learned so far, political celebrities who are anywhere on the right of center make up about one-seventh of the total of big names delivering graduation orations. Arguably, this is about the best representation conservatives can hope to obtain on campus in any given school year.

All the best,

Mal Kline,
Executive Director
New York University — Federal Reserve Chair Janet Yellin

New York University — Former President Bill Clinton

Northeastern University — University of California President Janet Napolitano

Oberlin College — Secretary of Labor Thomas E. Perez

Ohio State University — MSNBC Anchor Chris Matthews

Princeton University — Former Vice President Al Gore

Rutgers University — Former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice

Smith College — International Monetary Fund Managing Director Christine Lagarde

University of Texas — United States Navy Admiral William H. McRaven

Wake Forest University — New York Times Executive Editor Jill Abramson

Wesleyan University — Civil Rights Activist Theodore M. Shaw

Williams College — Former New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg

University of Wisconsin — Former Utah Governor Jon Huntsman

Yale University — Secretary of State John Kerry

Source: The Business Insider
The real test of the bias in academia revolves around who gets admitted to the faculty lounge.

“MSNBC television host, award-winning scholar and Wake Forest University alumna Melissa Harris-Perry (’94) will return this summer to her alma mater as a chaired professor,” Wake Forest announced in an online press release on April 11, 2014.

“Melissa Harris-Perry is one of the nation’s foremost intellectuals publicly exploring—and thoughtfully influencing—the intersections of politics, race, gender, religion and culture,” Wake Forest Provost Rogan Kersh stated. “We are delighted that she has chosen to come home to Wake Forest and help ignite in our students the passion she has for contemporary political issues and social justice.”

Previously, Harris-Perry taught at Tulane, the University of Chicago and Princeton. Conservative historians and economists may have to start their own think tanks in order to ply their trade but apparently having the right attitude is enough to get you an academic berth.

Outside the classroom, Harris-Perry’s observations border on the bizarre, even given the network she works for:

- “Over the weekend, MSNBC’s Melissa Harris-Perry weighed in on the Affordable Care Act by saying that the term ‘Obamacare’ was actually meant to be a ‘derogatory term,’ conceived by ‘wealthy white men,’ to put themselves above a black man and to diminish his accomplishments,” Accuracy in Media chairman Don Irvine reported on December 9, 2013.

- At the Take Back the American Dream conference in 2012, “Some conservative media attention has been focused on another speech at the conference, a rather bizarre presentation by MSNBC’s Melissa Harris-Perry,” Cliff Kincaid reported for AIM. “Predictably, as a black liberal, she described America as a racist nation. But this Tulane University professor went on to describe America’s response to the 9/11 terrorist attacks as a search for a new ‘racial enemy’ and the ‘imagined other,’ as if Islamic terrorism did not exist.”

As to what Harris-Perry teaches in the classroom, one of the trio of favorable reviews she got at Tulane on Rate...
My Professors.com offers a tantalizing hint: “MHP is an enthusiastic and intriguing professor. Her lectures are interesting (and usually filled with Beyonce references) and the class discussions are always stimulating. Overall her class is enjoyable but she does have a tendency to be a more harsh than necessary grader.”

**JOBS FOR HUMANITIES MAJORS?**

As commencement approaches, this year’s graduating seniors can look forward to pep talks about how employable humanities majors are.

“Upon graduating from college, those who majored in the humanities and social science made, on average, $26,271 in 2010 and 2011, slightly more than those in science and mathematics but less than those in engineering and in professional and pre-professional fields,” Vartan Gregorian writes in the Carnegie Reporter. “However, by their peak earning age of 56 to 60, these individuals earned $66,185, putting them about $2,000 ahead of professional and pre-professional majors in the same age bracket.”

Further, employers want to hire men and women who have the ability to think and act based on deep, wide-ranging knowledge. For example, the report [from the Association of American Colleges and Universities] finds that 93 percent of employers agree that candidates’ demonstrated capacity to think critically, communicate clearly, and solve complex problems is more important than their undergraduate major, and 55 percent said that what they wanted from potential employees was both field-specific knowledge and skills and a broad range of knowledge and skills. Even more evidence of hiring managers’ interest in richly educated individuals is the finding that four out of five employers agree that all students should acquire broad knowledge in the liberal arts and sciences.”

The Carnegie Reporter is published by the Carnegie Corporation of New York. Gregorian is president of the corporation.

**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.*

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**SQUEAKY CHALK**

by Deborah Lambert

**GRAD CERTIFICATE IN TRANSGENDER STUDIES**

When it comes to today’s college curricula, nothing, it seems, is beyond the pale.

Case in point: At San Diego State University, a brand new graduate program will offer an “Advanced Certificate in Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Studies,” starting this fall, according to Nathan Harden, editor of The College Fix. A university press release describes the program as a way to “advance knowledge in sexual and gender identity, and increase understanding of the diverse cultural, historical, ethnic, racial and contemporary experiences of people across sexualities.”

The new LGBT certificate is actually no surprise for a school that honors San Diego’s annual Pride Week with a rainbow flag raising ceremony and offers a “Lavender” graduation ceremony each spring, reserved exclusively for students “who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, or allies.”

What is noteworthy is that this is a public school, which means this and other weapons in “San Diego State’s arsenal of programs designed to shape the moral and political views of the youth” are all offered at taxpayer expense. In fact, while a cultural diversity class is required for graduation, students can go through all four years without ever taking a class in American history.
CHRIS MATTHEWS NIXED AT OHIO STATE

Obama was okay.

Even John Boehner passed muster.

But when word leaked out that MSNBC’s Chris Matthews was this year’s commencement speaker at Ohio State, there was a collective groan from many seniors on campus when they heard the news, reported Jennifer Kabbany in the College Fix.

“Why are they doing this?” asked graduating senior/Marine Corps veteran and psychology major Mark Green, who added that “I wouldn’t mind if it was a sitting politician, even if it was a liberal. But I don’t want to sit through a political commentator’s speech that I don’t agree with.”

Green’s opinions were echoed all over campus by students who believe that an irascible MSNBC Hardball anchor, who makes a living out of bashing Republicans and accusing those who dare to critique the president of racism, is hardly capable of providing an inspirational sendoff to this year’s graduating seniors.

In a letter to the editor, senior Jake Bradley expressed disappointment in the school’s decision, not based on Matthews’ liberal ideology, but because “he is directly against open dialogue.”

Also, Cody Rizzuto, a conservative University of Cincinnati student who is vice-chair of the Ohio College Republican Federation, called the Matthews selection a disservice to all students, maintaining that you don’t want a commencement speaker who is simply “a talking head who makes points for the left.”

All this dissent over commencement among graduating seniors would not have transpired had there been more input from students concerning this all-important choice of a speaker, a situation that will assuredly be remedied next year.

MONDO BIZARRO ON CAMPUS

Although the nests of radicals and other weasels have sucked most of the freedom of speech out of our college campuses, it is somehow comforting to discover the occasional emergence of a non-political prank reminiscent of the good old days of “Animal House.”

Case in point: Notre Dame student Brian McCurren recently caused thousands of dollars in damages when he used a 100 lb. flower pot and a hammer to break into a South Bend massage parlor where he gorged on half a box of Hot Pockets and some drumstick ice cream cones, before “passing out while waiting for a Mac and Cheese to finish cooking,” according to Before It’s News and Tomonews.us. When police discovered him the following morning, they charged him with burglary, vandalism and underage drinking.

A CALL TO ACTION

For years, those of us who have exposed and publicized the takeover of our college campuses by the radical left have noticed subtle changes in the demeanor of bright conservative students, who kept confronting the powerful forces arrayed against them. But eventually, even those courageous students gradually retreated into the woodwork, knowing that any public confrontation could be construed as harassment, which carried life-long implications that might affect their future. Many of them simply clammed up, and didn’t mention a word about the totalitarian threats and intolerance on campus until they graduated – and perhaps not even then.

But proof that hope springs eternal surfaced several weeks ago when Kyle Brooks, a student at the U. of Wisconsin, Whitewater, decided he’d had enough. What caused him to make that decision was a guest lecturer at school – an SEIU member named Eyon Biddle – who claimed that “politics is fueled by white rage” and suggested that racism helped fuel the Republican victory in 2010. He took out his phone and documented the rant.

Writing in the College Fix, Brooks explained that his video not only went viral immediately but became
national news and prompted an outpouring of response from people nationwide, who were “hungry for the truth about what is happening in our universities.”

Brooks is acquainted with this problem from the inside, because he lives with it every day. Getting a right-of-center speaker is harder than pulling teeth, but when a left-wing speaker tells a captive audience that Republicans are racists and America’s problems are the fault of rich, racist, white conservatives – and these views are presented as facts, then it’s time to stand up and expose it as hate speech.

After all, if a conservative Republican presided over a college class and made outrageous statements with no factual backup, he’d be run off the campus and out of town.

However, “since Eyon Biddle is liberal, the professor feels empowered to invite him to speak, knowing already what he plans to say, because the culture of the campus supports inaccurate rhetoric like Mr. Biddle’s.”

This feeling is so pervasive on American campuses that my professor didn’t even consider if it would be appropriate to invite a conservative to give an alternative perspective to what Eyon Biddle said until the story went national. Had I not recorded the video, allowing the lecture to be heard by millions, Eyon Biddle’s rant would have been the final word on the issue of race and politics in that class of young people whose political identity is being molded during these crucial years.

Brooks then claimed that all young conservatives – and just “normal people who know right from wrong should feel emboldened to stand up to outrageous bias and left-wing hate” wherever it presents itself. “College students should not be afraid to pull out their phones and begin recording an extreme lecture, even if their grade and reputation among the administration will suffer.”

Brooks then took a stand that may inspire his peers to follow suit: “If we want to see positive change, so colleges once again are fair places where scholarly free thought and expression are promoted, we need to stand up and reject far left radicalism in our classrooms. Students and parents need to let professors know that we will no longer tolerate bias that smears conservatism as racist and hateful. It takes courage and resolve, but if we as conservatives demand change, and declare enough is enough, than the left-wing campus culture will finally begin to turn around.”

Noting that “conservative policies promote the most economic growth and prosperity, which improve the lives of every American, especially the poorest among us,” he stressed that

“I don’t know a single Republican who wouldn’t vote for somebody because they were of a different race. Conservatives come from all backgrounds, and are united by a common belief that small government will increase prosperity and help all people. Rants like Eyon Biddle’s to my class seize on politics of division, to pit Americans against each other to help one side win elections, and distorts realities and damages our country.”
The REAL MLA Stylebook

To show what college and university English Departments are really teaching, Accuracy in Academia compiled *The REAL MLA Stylebook*, filled with quotes from a recent convention of the Modern Language Association (MLA) where thousands of English professors gather to push their politically correct, radical agenda. Outsiders who attend this event expecting to learn more about Chaucer, Milton and Shakespeare are in for a rude awakening when they discover that panels are more likely to focus on topics such as “Marxism and Globalization;” “What’s the Matter with Whiteness,” and “Queering Faulkner.”

This book is must-reading for anyone interested in learning more about the mindset of faculty members who are tasked with teaching the great works of the English language to our nation’s students.

You can order your copy of *The REAL MLA Stylebook* using the coupon below or order online at the AIM store: www.ShopAIM.org

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