

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

CAMPUS REPORT

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Photo by Claire Chapman

THE CONSTITUTION: DEAD OR ALIVE?

By Malcolm A. Kline

If indeed there is a problem with the Constitution, perhaps it is that it is not being followed in a bipartisan fashion.

It's interesting that some of those who would make the “living Constitution” argument seem most anxious to put the old parchment to rest. “What’s coming will be painful, frustrating, and dangerous—and it will illustrate a constitutional malfunction unforeseen in 1787,” Garrett Epps writes in *The Atlantic*. “The country will survive, and it’s possible it can even make progress—but at tremendous cost in polarization and missed opportunity.”

“The country is like a car driving with the handbrake on: Any movement forward will be accompanied by smoke and internal damage.” Epps is a professor of Constitutional Law at the University of Baltimore.

“So we might profitably put a six-month moratorium on paeans to the wisdom of the Framers,” he avers. Profitable to whom?

“The problem of divided government is a bug, not a feature, and the Constitution itself provides no guidance on how to work around it,” Epps avers.

“I’m not taking one side against the other; I’m trying to illustrate a dangerous weakness of our system, one that the Framers clearly did not foresee,” Epps claims. “Many of them believed there would not be political parties in the new system. Others no doubt thought that the government they had designed would consist of a Congress that met for a month or so every December and a president who would supervise a slumbering bureaucracy the rest of the year. Some of them assumed the president would be a passive figure, administering directions from Congress; others imagined a chief executive with some of the majesty of the king of England.

“I don’t think any of them anticipated that the two branches would ever clash over which represented ‘the will of the voters.’” His timing is impeccable: He writes this after voters nationwide willfully cast their ballots against the policies of the president.

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Director's Corner

By Malcolm A. Kline, Executive Director of AIA



January 2015

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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Dear Reader,

Happy New Year!

As you can see, we are focusing on the Constitution in this issue. Our last issue was devoted to the Magna Carta.

As time goes on, we find that we have a dual function: tracking the inaccuracies in academia and acting as a repository of American history. The two are not unrelated.

Indeed, we find that much of the inaccuracy in academe results from a misunderstanding of America's past. Part of this stems from the failure of academics to consult primary sources in their histories.

Although the papers of many public officials of days gone by are located in universities, they mostly show up in the research of researchers outside the university system. One can see this by reading academic histories and finding that they usually quote each other.

This has an impact on the world at large as it rolls along attempting to be guided by past experience. If we must serve as a guide on the journey, we are happy to accept this responsibility.

As well, it is a privilege to serve you, our readers, and we are most grateful for all of the assistance which you have given us.

May your new year be a profitable one.

All the best,

Mal Kline,
Executive Director

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Moreover, isn't it a fascinating dichotomy that when a Republican president commits an act of questionable Constitutionality—Nixon comes to mind—it precipitates a “Constitutional crisis” in the minds of elites, as they oft state, but when the Constitutional malefactor bears a D, the Constitution is the problem?

If indeed there is a problem with the Constitution, perhaps it is that it is not being followed in a bipartisan fashion. This seems to be the view of a pair of historians from The King's College, who beg to differ with Epps. Actually, they don't beg.

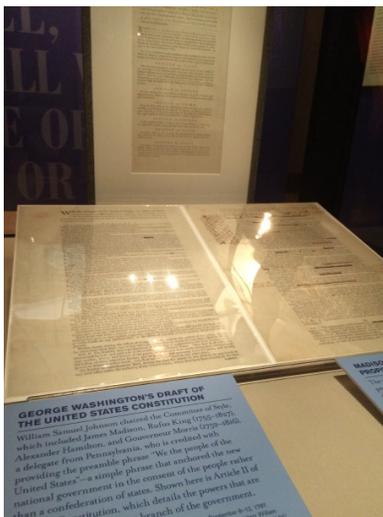
“Much could be said in response to this charge against the founders—starting with the fact that they didn't just *anticipate* divided government, they *designed* the government to be divided with the separation of legislative, executive, and legislative powers,” David Corbin and Matt Parks write. “If they erred, it was in assuming (a) that the government would be divided as much (or more) legislature against executive as Party X against Party Y and (b) that parties would be more

numerous and fluid than they have turned out to be.”

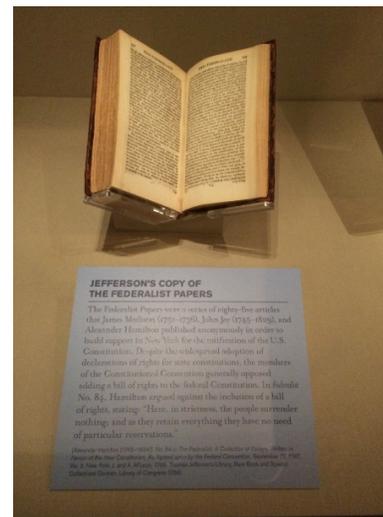
“They hoped, in other words, for something better in congressional leaders than sycophantic ideologues, like Senator Reid, who invite the president to ‘go big’ in usurping legislative authority, but they harbored no illusions that their system would facilitate expansive legislative programs, which were neither needed (see *Federalist* 53) nor conducive to self-government (see *Federalist* 62).”

“Gridlock, most of the time, was a better option than bad or frequent lawmaking—and the occasional times when it frustrated good initiatives were a reasonable price to pay for avoiding the assaults to enterprise and liberty of a voluminous and unstable legal code.”

Speaking of which, it is worthwhile remembering the words of the brilliant author M. Stanton Evans who said: “Gridlock is the next best thing to having a Constitution.”



George Washington's draft of the Constitution



Thomas Jefferson's copy of The Federalist Papers

Photos by Spencer Irvine

SQUEAKY CHALK

by Deborah Lambert



CHICKEN DINNER RUFFLES FEATHERS AT PETA



Members of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) usually take a pretty hard line on animal mistreatment, so when they called for the expulsion of three University of Vermont (UVM) students in mid-December, there had to be a reason. Pretty soon, the jaw-

dropping truth came out when it was discovered that the young men in question were responsible for “the theft, slaughter, and consumption of a fraternity’s pet chicken,” according to CNSNews.com.

Although the young carnivores were charged with unlawful trespassing, possession of stolen property, and cruelty to animals, UVM police Deputy Chief Timothy Bilodeau reported that rather than press criminal charges, the situation had been referred to a UVM “reparative board” where the students will most likely receive scaled-down punishment. Even so, it may take a while for them to personally recuperate from the sting of killing their own Alpha Gamma Rho pet chicken and cooking it in a dorm room kitchen.

It was actually peta2, the youth division of PETA

- whose motto is “animals are not ours to eat” – that called on the university to expel the UVM students and prohibit the future keeping of chickens by student groups.

“Cruelty to animals should be taken seriously, and I hope the university will send the message that bullying and abusing *anyone* is unacceptable. I urge you to expel the students who stole, killed, and ate the chicken,” Marta Holmberg, peta2 Director of Youth Outreach and Campaigns, wrote to university officials.



NOTRE DAME OFFERS “WHITE PRIVILEGE” CLASS

This semester, Notre Dame joins other schools throughout the country by offering a class in “White Privilege” aimed at encouraging “personal transformation” and exploring avenues to “disrupt. . . oppression” among its students, according to Samantha Audia, reporting for *The College Fix*.

“The goal for each participant is personal transformation: to leave the class . . . more aware of injustices and better equipped with tools to disrupt personal, institutional, and worldwide systems of oppression,” according to a description of the six week, one-credit sociology course titled “White Privilege Seminar.”

Students in this one-credit class will be immersed in a series of “white guilt” lectures as a stepping stone to getting a school-sponsored trip to attend the four-day

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White Privilege Conference in March in Louisville, Kentucky.

However, some students have already wised up regarding the intent of this class. Conservative student activist Mark Gianfalla told *The College Fix* that while it's billed as a "multicultural" effort, the class is nothing more than "an opportunity to bias students towards the shaming of one culture and ethnicity."

Another Notre Dame student Timothy Bradley, executive editor of *The Irish Rover*, noted that students who wished to take the class had to fill out an application and answer questions such as "What privileges do you have? What benefits have you received? How do you define white privilege? What do you hope to gain from the conference," noted Bradley.

The Notre Dame course is being taught by Professor Iris Outlaw, director of Multicultural Student Programs and Services at Notre Dame, who was instrumental in organizing protests against College Republicans' plans to invite Ann Coulter to speak on campus.



THE BULLY PULPIT

While common knowledge has it that bullying in schools is a problem inspired by students, there is more and more reason to believe that it is frequently instigated by authority figures against their subordinates, according to *The Washington Post*.

Case in point: At Largo High School in Prince Georges County, Maryland, a long-standing situation allegedly inspired by school principal Angelique Simpson-Marcus, maintains that "Simpson-Marcus routinely belittled and berated staff, derided teachers and secretaries and made inappropriate comments about white teachers," according to former employees.

The situation, which apparently reached the point where teachers were not supposed to have lunch with – or even speak to a white English teacher, resulted in a lawsuit that is still pending at the school. According to the *Post*, "Tracy Allison, a secretary who worked in Simpson-Marcus's office, said she was harassed because she showed respect to the former teacher, who

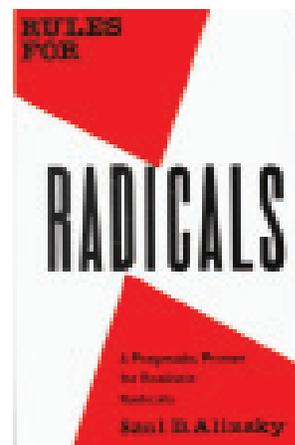
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the principal allegedly called 'poor white trash,' and to another white teacher who Simpson-Marcus referred to as 'Bozo.'"

Meanwhile, according to Fox News, one of the most serious offenders in the bullying arena is the teachers' unions. Kyle Olson, founder of Education Action Group and EAGnews.org, reported that when the teachers' union in Framingham, Mass. didn't succeed at the bargaining table, "union leaders began collecting personal information on school committee members, like the health clubs they belong to and where their spouses work, all in an attempt to intimidate – dare I say bully – them.

"After Michigan adopted a right-to-work law, and many teachers left their unions, a Michigan Education Association newsletter published the names of numerous members who resigned, in an obvious effort to publicly humiliate them."

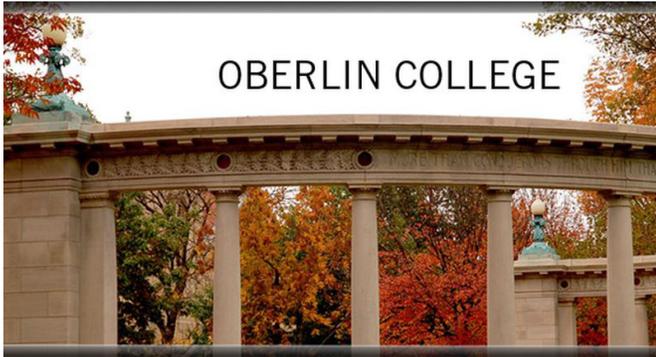
However, Kyle Olson notes that since the NEA's "recommended reading" list includes Saul Alinsky's "Rules for Radicals," such "bullying will naturally be a part of the tactics used against school boards and, ultimately, taxpayers. After all, Alinsky believed the ends justify the means – even if it means bullying. Ethics be damned; bring on the victory. Decency is for suckers."



PROF'S RESPONSE TO STUDENT'S EXAM DELAY REQUEST

"It's probably safe to assume to that Oberlin student Della Kurzer-Zlotnick was not prepared for her professor's response when she asked him about delaying exams due to Ferguson-related stress," noted *College Fix* assistant editor Dan Huber.

Ms. Kurzer-Zlotnick, who appeared to be a self-appointed (white) spokesman for black students who



“suffered significant trauma” after the grand jury rulings in Ferguson and Staten Island, wrote Assistant Math Professor Michael Raney a detailed three-paragraph message last month about why exams should be delayed, along with reasons why the professor, along with the entire school, should concur with her suggestion.

To which the prof simply replied ... “No.”



THE GREAT CAMPUS RAPE HOAX

Professor Glenn Harlan Reynolds, proprietor of the enormously popular *Instapundit* blog, recently responded to the latest national brouhaha over the UVA rape hoax by saying that “as the evidence accumulates it’s becoming clear that the entire thing was just a bunch of media hype and political opportunism.”

Increasingly described as a problem of epidemic proportions, the mainstream media have strongly suggested that since the “system” for dealing with this issue is “broken,” the only solution is new legislation. This mindset explains why the momentary uproar about the bogus UVA rape story was viewed simply as an isolated incident that in no way negates the significance of this problem. In the opinion of Prof. Reynolds, this is the real college rape hoax.

“Because the truth is that there’s no epidemic outbreak of college rape. In fact, rape on college campuses is — like rape everywhere else in America — plummeting in frequency. And that 1-in-5 college rape number you keep hearing in the press? It’s thoroughly bogus, too. (Even the authors of that study say that ‘We don’t think one in five is a nationally representative statistic.’”

since it only sampled two schools.)

“According to the Justice Department’s Bureau of Justice Statistics, the rate of rape and sexual assault is lower for college students (at 6.1 per 1,000) than for non-students (7.6 per 1,000). (Note: not 1 in 5). What’s more, between 1997 and 2013, rape against women dropped by about 50%, in keeping with a more general drop in violent crime nationally.

“Upshot: Women on campus aren’t at more risk for sexual assault, and their risk is nothing like the bogus 1-in-5 statistic bandied about by politicians and activists. So why is this non-crisis getting so much press?”

“It’s getting press because it suits the interests of those pushing the story,” since it’s a woman-related story that boosts the careers of certain female senators and the overall motives of the war on women.



“This kind of hysteria may be ugly, but for campus activists and bureaucrats it’s a source of power: If there’s a ‘campus rape crisis,’ that means that we need new rules, bigger budgets, and expanded power and self-importance for all involved, with the added advantage of letting you call your political opponents (or anyone who threatens funding) ‘pro rape.’ If we focus on the truth, however — rapidly declining rape rates already, without any particular ‘crisis’ programs in place — then voters, taxpayers, and university trustees will probably decide to invest resources elsewhere.

“So for politicians and activists, a phony crisis beats no crisis.”

THE REAL MILLIONAIRE'S CLUB

If you're still looking for the one-percenters, you might try checking out college campuses rather than corporate boardrooms: As tallied by the Chronicle of Higher Education, 36 college presidents were paid more than one million dollars in 2012.

Meet the big men and women on campus:

Shirley Ann Jackson, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute—\$7,143,312

John L. Lahey, Quinnipiac University—\$3,759,076

Lee C. Bolinger, Columbia—\$3,389,917

Amy Gutmann, Penn—\$2,473,952

Charles R. Middleton, Roosevelt University—\$1,762,956

Susan Hockfield, MIT—\$1,679,097

David W. Leebron, Rice—\$1,522,502

John E. Sexton, NYU—\$1,404,484

Marc Tessier-Lavigne, Rockefeller University—\$1,381,341

Richard C. Levin, Yale—\$1,375,365

Robert J. Zimmer, University of Chicago—\$1,369,856

Nido Qubein, High Point University—\$1,355,777

Steadman Upham, University of Tulsa—\$1,355,061

C. L. Max Nikias, University of Southern California—\$1,316,524

John J. DeGioia, Georgetown—\$1,292,786

Steven Knapp, George Washington University—\$1,263,034

Donna E. Shalala, University of Miami—\$1,225,689

David E. Van Zandt, New School for Social Research—\$1,172,515

Joseph E. Aoun, Northeastern University—\$1,170,851

Robert A. Brown, Boston University—\$1,164,078

Robert Weisbuch, Drew University—\$1,155,382

Nicholas S. Zeppos, Vanderbilt—\$1,154,488

Victor J. Boschini, Jr., Texas Christian University—\$1,150,966

Morton O. Schapiro, Northwestern—\$1,123,913

James F. Jones, Jr., Trinity College (Connecticut)—\$1,118,678

Richard Brodhead, Duke—\$1,102,608

Ronald J. Daniels, Johns Hopkins—\$1,100,844

John A. Fry, Drexel University—\$1,074,814

Barbara R. Snyder, Case Western—\$1,035,849

Scott S. Cowen, Tulane—\$1,020,000

Walter Harrison, University of Hartford—\$1,019,779

James W. Wagner, Emory—\$1,019,607

Richard M. Joel, Yeshiva—\$1,016,453

Edward Guiliano, New York Institute of Technology at Old Westbury—\$1,015,259

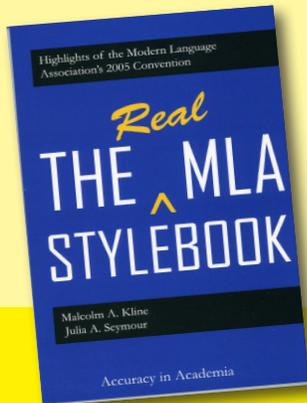
Edward L. Ayers, University of Richmond—\$1,008,770

Nathan O. Hatch, Wake Forest—\$1,005,505

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.



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