The “best and the brightest” in academe have been trying to unravel the Trump phenomenon for about as long as this election season has run. For example, over that time period, Martin Kich of Wright State University has devoted about three blogs a week to the subject on the academe blog maintained by the American Association of University Professors (AAUP).

Here’s a clue, for Kich and company: You can only convince people that we have a good economy if they actually have jobs. A pair of scholars of fairly diverse backgrounds has figured this out: They are, of course, a minority in academe. We have written about the phenomenon today in which more budding businesses fail than succeed. It turns out that we aren’t the only ones who noticed. “Nowadays, more businesses die each year than are started,” Angelo Codevilla wrote in The Claremont Review of Books. “In this century, all net additions in employment have come from the country’s 1,500 largest corporations.”

Ah, but where are those jobs? “In the first decade of this century, U.S. multinationals shed 2.9 million U.S. jobs while increasing employment overseas by 2.4 million,” George Mason University Law School professor Frank Buckley noted in a speech earlier this year at Hillsdale College’s Washington, D. C. Center for Constitutional Studies and Citizenship.

“General Electric provides a striking

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TRUMP BAFFLES ACADEMICS

By Malcolm A. Kline

They may have seen “The Real World” but they haven’t lived in it.

New Business Survival Rate

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
November 2016

Dear Reader,

By the time that you read this, the election will have already been decided. Nevertheless, we dare to suggest, our cover story will still not be outdated. Indeed, the inability of elites—academic and political—to understand, or even notice, the problems that Americans grapple with today will still be a phenomenon worthy of note.

In fact, we have seen the same lack of comprehension among our friends and neighbors here in the Washington metropolitan area that academics demonstrate. It’s because they are, in a key way, similar folks, i.e., insulated.

As recently as last July, a friend of mine who works with the American Association of University Professors proclaimed to me that “the economy is great.” We might describe the economy in many ways but great is not one of them. My own less-than-pithy epithet is, “the even greater Depression.”

Still and all, the political Left, in and out of academia, although they dominate the latter, has over the years undertaken, depending on who is in power, a number of slogans, perhaps the most memorable of which are:

- “Journalism comforts the afflicted and afflicts the comfortable” and
- “Speak truth to power.”

We actually endeavor to do this, no matter which party controls the White House, Congress or your not-so-friendly neighborhood university.

All the best,

Mal Kline,
Executive Director
example,” he argued. “Jeffrey Immelt became the company’s CEO in 2001, with a mission to advance stock price. He did this in part by reducing GE’s U.S. workforce by 34,000 jobs. During the same period, the company added 25,000 jobs overseas. Ironically, President Obama chose Immelt to head his Jobs Council.”

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**SQUEAKY CHALK**

*By Deborah Lambert*

**BLOATED COLLEGE BUREAUCRACIES**

Heather Mac Donald of the Manhattan Institute, author of *The War Against Cops*, identified the situation perfectly in a Prager University video called “The Diversity Scam.” She said the point is that diversity was really not a problem on our college campuses, until . . .

Some problem-creators appeared on the scene and decreed that most of our nation’s colleges and universities were racist, sexist and homophobic. The only way to address this situation was to create a massive diversity bureaucracy in order to handle it.

After all, creating a crisis and managing it was one of their strong suits.

“While the number of non-academic administrators at American universities has more than doubled over the last quarter century, the ratio of full-time faculty and staff per administrator has plummeted some 40% since the beginning of the millennium,” writes the Pope Center’s Stephanie Keaveney.

One school that really takes diversity seriously is the University of Michigan, “which tripled its diversity budget and will receive a total of $355.9 million in state appropriations for the current fiscal year, more than any other state university,” according to *Michigan Capital Confidential*.

One of the fulltime administrative positions titled Vice Provost for Diversity, Equity and Academic Affairs was filled by a Psychology and Education Professor named Robert Sellers, who earned a hefty $350,000 during his first year on the job in 2014-15.

“The message seems clear,” Keaveney says. “If you want a job at a university, pursue non-academic roles requiring advanced degrees.”

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**THE DIVERSITY SAGA CONTINUES PART TWO**

Several weeks ago, someone discovered racist flyers posted around the University of Michigan campus. One of them listed reasons “why white women shouldn’t date black men,” while another praised the virtues of whiteness. Huh?

Instead of bringing the various factions together with their highly paid diversity counselors to talk it over, they pursued a rather oxymoronic course of action.

The school held a series of “diversity town halls” in mid-October to “discuss the racist posters, Black Lives Matter, and police violence in the United States.” White students were reportedly not allowed to attend the first meeting, and organizers also reportedly asked a Michigan Daily reporter to leave.

However, the University of Michigan is far from alone in their decision-making policies. As racial tensions continue to simmer on our campuses, the University of California and the University of Connecticut are among the schools that have announced that they will be launching segregated dorm concepts in the very near future.

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**CONSERVATIVE STUDENTS BECOME NEW CAMPUS COUNTERCULTURE**

During a CPAC 2016 panel called “The Greatest Security Challenge Facing the Next President,” Deneen Borelli used the San Bernardino, CA murder of 14 people by Islamic terrorists as an example of how “Political correctness kills.” A noted author and chief political correspondent for the Conservative Review, Borelli said that when a neighbor noticed the couple’s suspicious activity that erupted into the murder of 14 people in
Claremont McKenna College, was labeled a “shady person of color” for regularly defending faculty in the Claremont McKenna newspaper. Her other “crime”? Opposing so-called “safe spaces.”

Jacob Ellenhorn, president of the University of Southern California College Republicans, has not only run afoul of the “pc police” several times, but barely escaped being impeached by the student senate for his “hostile” viewpoints.

The real problem was that he invited conservatives, namely Breitbart’s controversial Milo Yiannopoulos, to speak on campus. However eventually, the school’s student senate decided to allow their colleague to remain in office.

“After hearing the truth about the false charges brought up against [me] by Diana Jimenez, my fellow senators decided to vote against my impeachment,” Jacob Ellenhorn told Campus Reform in a statement. “That said, while they have voted against removing me from office, they have decided to still punish me for my political views, and for exercising my First Amendment right to speak with members of the press. As part of this official punishment the last $250 installment of my $2,000 stipend will be withheld.”

Christian Costa served as national co-chair of Students for Carly [Fiorina] while attending the all-women’s Meredith College, in Raleigh, North Carolina. “Not only did she learn that was a big no-no from her moral betters on campus, but she was severely criticized for backing the controversial transgender bathroom bill in her state.

“I found it shocking that many of my professors didn’t think gender is biological,” Costa said. “You have to be biologically and self-identifying as female [to go here] so how can you believe gender does not exist?”

Taylor Samuelson, a student at Saddleback College in California, believes that “the PC culture on campus is reaching its peak,” and is on its way to suffering a freefall, leaving conservatism to fill the void. The conservative student counterattack has already empowered students who are becoming the brave pioneers of a campus revolution…Samuelson said that even non-ideological students are finally starting to realize that the real extremists on campus are leftists, not conservatives…

Dominique Blair, a student at Cerritos College in Norwalk, California, said she has been bullied for being black and conservative. “I spent three hours being berated and taunted,” she said, adding that “I was called a ‘race traitor,’ ‘Uncle Tom’ and ‘coconut’ by black students.” Despite this treatment, she went right back to fighting the Left, and regularly participates in conservative campus events, which included starting a Turning Point USA chapter.

Hannah Oh, an Asian conservative graduate of San Bernardino, unfortunately, that person did not tell anyone for fear of being called a racist.

The question is, where does the epidemic of political correctness have the most powerful influence on freedom of speech? The answer is on our nation’s campuses, where authoritarian rule and the acceptance of microaggressions, trigger warnings and safe zones have become a way of life.

But leadership on college campuses, as in adulthood, is an exercise in survival of the fittest.

While political correctness is still a destructive force in academia, a conservative uprising is brewing on American campuses. This new wave of conservative activism has been labeled the “counterculture movement,” which is fighting the Leftist overlords, who have literally strangled the First Amendment at our nation’s schools, according to TruthRevolt.