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First Amendment Heroes

By **Mike S. Adams**
Monday, November 5, 2007
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My last column, "[Brave Newark World](#)" was part of a smashing First Amendment success. Thanks, in part, to hundreds of loyal readers -- those who took the time to write the University of Delaware -- the university's unconstitutional re-education program is now history. I hope the same readers will take the time to write the university again -- this time to thank them for doing the right thing. And I hope my readers will join me in this first installment of a new column series recognizing First Amendment heroes who are helping us turn the tide against thought control on our nation's college campuses. The first half-dozen honorees follow:

Steve Balch, President of the National Association of Scholars, or NAS. (see www.NAS.org).

The Delaware Association of Scholars is the group that collected much of the information I used in my column on Delaware's re-education program. As a part of the NAS, one of its goals is to bring attention to the decline of academic standards in higher education. A part of that decline is the result of the interjection of race and gender politics in virtually every aspect of academic life. The NAS recognizes the danger of programs like the one at Delaware that seeks (or sought) to use government resources to force students to accept a radical re-definition of racism. The organization is also one of the few (perhaps only) that understands the link between radical identity politics and the decline of civility in higher education.

Today, there are many strong state chapters of the NAS. That is mostly because of the hard work of NAS President Steve Balch. Take the time to log on to the NAS website to learn more about the organization. And feel free to call Steve to let him know his work is appreciated. I plan to show my appreciation by re-joining the NAS this week. I encourage other concerned professors to do the same.

Alan Kors, **Harvey Silverglate**, and **Greg Lukianoff** of the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education, or FIRE. (see www.TheFire.org).

I seldom get a chance to speak with Alan and Harvey, co-founders of the FIRE. When I do, it is usually a brief e-mail. But I speak with Greg on a regular basis. Put simply, I would not have a career were it not for this fine organization. They bailed me out of a situation at UNCW that really shows how petty and willfully ignorant college administrators can remain when it comes to the principles of free expression. Since then, I have become a free speech advocate in columns, books, and speeches. Much of my material comes from the leg work of the FIRE. They deserve the credit for nearly every significant free speech victory won on a college campus in this young century.

Perhaps the most impressive aspect of the FIRE is the political composition of its staff. One co-founder is a liberal, the other is a conservative. Of its last two presidents, one is a liberal, the other is a conservative. People who claim the FIRE is a "right-wing" organization are wrong. It only appears that way because conservative speech is under attack in higher education far more often than is liberal speech. If that ever changes, it won't matter to the good people at FIRE. They will keep doing what they do in the name of principle, not identity politics.

Neal Boortz. (see www.Boortz.com). I want to be just like Neal Boortz when (if) I ever grow up. In order to do so, I am going to have to remain very angry for a very long time. That's what I like about Neal. He recognizes the Marxist underpinnings of many of our threats to free speech such as speech codes and mandatory diversity re-education. And it makes him very angry. And he simply refuses to cool down no matter how long he covers these issues on his widely-heard radio show.

I should not have been at all surprised when I made an appearance on his show last week to talk about the free speech problem at the University of Delaware. As soon as I started to talk about the case I learned that Neal had been discussing it on the air for two days. Neal regularly fires up his millions of listeners who, in turn, help apply the pressure to college administrators across the nation.

Last week, a list of the 100 most influential conservatives in America was released with no mention of Neal. He deserves to be high on that list as well as this one.

Dinesh D'Souza. Sometimes we forget that Dinesh D'Souza was one of the first to write about the effects of political correctness on university free speech. His early 1990s book, *Illiberal Education* is a must-read for anyone interested in the topic. And, for those who don't know it, his sometimes-overlooked *Letters to a Young Conservative* is loaded with

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Recently, I realized that I would not be doing what I am doing without Dinesh's influence. Shortly thereafter, I wrote to thank him for being, not just a great influence but, perhaps, the greatest political mind of our time. I hope some of you will take the time to write and thank him for his role in starting this great free speech revolution in higher education.

When I first started writing about the insanity on our campuses even my own family and friends did not believe the stories. But because of all the people I've mentioned today, they do believe me now. And, whenever I get a chance, I tell them "See, I told you so."

Next week, I will write about young First Amendment heroes who are still in school. You won't believe how great these kids are when I first tell you. But, later, when they become household names, you will. And, then, I will write again to tell you "See, I told you so."

Until then, enjoy your precious liberties. Our toughest battles may be still to come.

Dr. Adams will speak at UNC-Charlotte on Thursday, November 8th. His Speech on "Why 'Liberals' Hate Individual Freedom" will start at 6:30 p.m. in Room 155, College of Health and Human Services.

Mike Adams is a criminology professor at the University of North Carolina Wilmington and author of [Welcome to the Ivory Tower of Babel: Confessions of a Conservative College Professor](#).

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Prodigy writes:

Monday, November, 05, 2007 12:14 AM

Congrats

Congratulations & thanks to those who shut down the thought police at the University of Delaware.

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Bytheocean writes:

Monday, November, 05, 2007 4:12 AM

and

and thanks to David Horowitz who brought speakers to the campuses so that speech that has not been heard on a campus could be heard and as a result got footage of the Leftist programmed anti free speech students.

And the opposite of thanks to the fellow who runs C-Span who refused to air Michael Savage's speech on winning I believe it was the Free Speech Award and then Bushytail gave the same head of CSpan an award. Harumph.

And congrats to the father of the dead soldier who found grounds to sue and win against that suspected Leftist plant of an allegedly Christian group, Phelps and family, on grounds other than free speech.

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Sgt Relic writes:

Monday, November, 05, 2007 6:14 AM

Congratulations to all

Small victories win wars. Make no mistake, we are engaged in the fight of our lives. This battle is joined on so many front that it is difficult for many to even hear about these small battles.

Talk Radio and Internet sites are key elements in this struggle. Battles are in progress on the issues of illegals, earmarks, taxation, speech, religious practice, national sovereignty, and judicial tyranny to name just a few.

While our armed forces struggle with tyranny abroad the freedoms they are defending are under attack here at home. We owe it to them to ensure that the freedoms they are fighting to preserve will still exist when they return to society.

This is a debt passed on to us by the founders and is the debt of every generation to pass on to its posterity the same freedoms that they have enjoyed.

I have always felt that what marks Americans as different in the world is our willingness to fight for a principle. I refuse to believe that we are ready to exchange freedom for the chains of security.

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Spiceman writes:

Monday, November, 05, 2007 6:18 AM

Thanks to you as well

Mike you have played a role that has helped to mobilize people, with your Mice and Mormons series. Bringing people to gather gets it done.

It appears that a friend of Al Gore, Steven Stoll a Liberal academic with Yale University is the contact for the web site.

<http://controlcongress.com>

Right now you can find the following video of Gov. Bill Richardson, What is the fastest way to withdraw the troops from IRAQ? Gov. Bill Richardson. Sponsored by On Moveon.org Have you heard this?

If you didn't know about this, I thought you would like to know.

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Beckie writes: Monday, November, 05, 2007 6:26 AM

I agree

working in a field almost as top-heavy with liberals as university life, I have had quite a time of it when dealing with my colleagues. I am known as the brassy broad with an ancient attitude. Namely, that I would bother to believe that people need to get off their butts and work, go to school to educate themselves, read everyday, and stop depending on me for a meal ticket. And though I am reviled for this perspective in public, for some reason business keeps getting better. Is it because the liberals I work with see the correlation between not being afraid to use my Free speech rights and a principle of being ethical?

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Savage99 writes: Monday, November, 05, 2007 6:57 AM

Beckie

You don't supply many details, but my experience is that business gets better for conservatives that produce, whenever times get tougher for the PC wishful thinkers who believe good intentions will do the job. Look to be swamped in the near future.

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Ph.D., J.D. writes: Monday, November, 05, 2007 7:14 AM

Great column

The author is correct. We need to support these places. In most departments, a libertarian/conservative type cannot even get hired. Most of us give it up and get out to the real world to make a living. It really IS more honorable out here. Keep up the good work.

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NUTNFNR writes: Monday, November, 05, 2007 7:35 AM

And here's to Mike....

who for several years has been a strong and effective voice for freedom of speech on campuses. He was the one who brought to my attention the insanity that poses as higher education at most colleges and universities. Since hearing Mike speak to our small political club here in eastern NC I have read everything he has written, even though what he writes about makes my blood boil.

Mike, from the scores of posts that follow your articles on such as the DU debacle, we may deduce that America is with you. Keep up the good work.

Sam S. in MHC

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USMC (Ret) writes: Monday, November, 05, 2007 8:16 AM

7 hours and 20+ minutes

and no comments from the "howler monkeys".

Hey, MikeR....any comments about how this program was misrepresented? I guess it was just misunderstandings that caused the university administration to kill it once day light exposed their agenda?

Liberal/socialist/Marxist tactics cannot survive in this nation once exposed. Sadly, I fear, this may not always be the case with the MSM, "full-o-craps", and the useful idiots in the media and the willing masses they have kept woefully ignorant.

I teach school in an inner-city. Here, a full quarter of the kids (for the most part) don't value an education. Some think they will go to college based on want alone. Academics, honor, and hard work are as foreign to them as life on Mars. It's a shame because they are just emulating the limited adult role models in their home lives.

They are good little socialists on the move. "I want this." "That's not fair." "Don't dis me." And what is more, they feed on their own. The fighting (on and off campus) has landing many in jail, and nearly 5 times as many with suspension or expulsion. Hard to reach them or even instill some form of learning when they miss some portion of school almost weekly. It's no wonder that the inner cities are suffering a cancer, or that they are bastions of "full-o-crap" supporters.

If it's the case that one bad apple spoils the whole bunch, you can extrapolate what 1 in 4 bad apples can do.

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MikeR writes: Monday, November, 05, 2007 8:33 AM

USMC (Ret)

And everyone else too. The program was a bad idea. It should never have been used. I have said that since 10/31. I still assert that the idea of helping young people understand the impact of the things that come out of their mouths is a good one. But let's get to the real story here. Dr. Adam's writing career is based on pointing out extremists in higher education. Unfortunately, his opinions translate to all manner of extremism on the other side. If you scan the other thread, you will find folks claiming a nation wide conspiracy to enslave the minds of young people. You will find talk of a culture war which will lead to armed revolution. You will find cries of Nazism, communism, socialism, fascism and claims that UD is run by Stalin and managed by the administration of the University of Beijing. So don't kid yourself. UD is a great school. It has as fair and balanced operation as any major university. Many of its graduates go on to great things. Anyone who thinks the students are brainwashed should walk around campus on a Saturday night. You will see what's really on most of their minds. I will gladly debate the merit or flaws of the manual and program in question, but I'm not going to join in a mindless parade of "liberals bad, conservatives good".

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MikeR writes: Monday, November, 05, 2007 8:37 AM

folks

I noted that the previous thread went on for some length. I was not ignoring you. I do not use the computer after I go home on Fridays. I will answer any questions you ask.

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USMC (Ret) writes: Monday, November, 05, 2007 8:57 AM

So Dr Adams only focuses on the extreme

Well MikeR, the extreme seems to be just about everywhere. Kind of weakens your argument that there isn't a wide spread attempt out there to brainwash the next generation.

And as for your defense that UD is not run by a socialist?arxist/Communist/et al....let's look at where Patrick Harker has been spending his time...

Now, I do not believe that University and College presidents take the time to get on conference calls on a regular basis to formulate their plans for subverting the nation. But I do believe that when your perspective and believe system starts with "All whites are rascist, and everything American is evil." it is easy to fall into the same lines of action.

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none writes: Monday, November, 05, 2007 9:00 AM

First Amendment Heroes

Conspicuously absent from this list was David Horowitz.

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nbumpo writes: Monday, November, 05, 2007 9:48 AM

MikeR

"So don't kid yourself. UD is a great school. It has as fair and balanced operation as any major university"

Given what has happened in some of the major universities, this is not a ringing endorsement of UD.

We are in agreement on something else you wrote. "The policy was a bad idea."

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Jimmy D writes: Monday, November, 05, 2007 9:57 AM

The Job is not done

There are many Universities across America that still violate our Children with their Liberal Commie Socialistic Propaganda. We need to get to those who support these Universities and have them withhold all funds until these Liberals have been removed from their Tenure, from their interacting with the Young of America, and from their Administrative positions. This same Agenda is being shoved down our Younger kids k-12 with Gay & lesbian doctrine and other atrocities every day across America. Not too long ago, I read about an Illinois School District that decided to put Books on the School's list that teaches how to have safe anal sex to children in elementary school, and then the School told the Parents basically to go to h@ll when they opposed this and other insane

activities. How about the child who was suspended for drawing a picture of a gun. How about the Man who flushed a Koran down a University Toilet, is now being charged with a Hate Crime - Where's his first admendment protection. Our Courts have gone too far and needs to be addressed as well. They have attacked our First and Second Admendment rights without any threats to themselves.

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sedonaman writes:

Monday, November, 05, 2007 9:58 AM

The "Enlightenment"

By coincidence, I received a solicitation phone call from my alma mater, Cal Poly, only a few hours after reading about U of Delaware's halting their brainwashing program. I proceeded to explain that I do not support the things promoted on the campuses in America, and described what happened at the U of D. The student solicitor, a bio-chemistry major, said he was not aware of it. I asked if he had ever heard of Cal Poly student Steve Hinkle (google), and he said the name rang a bell but didn't actually remember why. So, I explained that incident to him. We spoke for about ten minutes about how I was against diversity, multiculturalism, affirmative action, and the whole litany of politically-correct activities on campus, and he kept saying, "That is very enlightening. That is very enlightening." I told him that I was sending my otherwise Cal Poly contribution to FIRE instead. At the end, he asked if I wanted to be taken off the list so as not to be bothered in the future. I said no because maybe I could "enlighten" the next student who called.

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Savage99 writes:

Monday, November, 05, 2007 10:01 AM

nbumpo

Could that nickname be short for Natty Bumpo? Holy Mohicans!

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MikeR writes:

Monday, November, 05, 2007 10:23 AM

USMC (Ret)

I would describe the situation as pandemic but not epidemic. It is my contention that the overall situation is being inflated much in the same manner as the liberals have done with global warming. So no, the existence of the problem in several places does not weaken my argument. I do not hold with conspiracy theories. We hear them constantly from the left and the right. Sorry, the world is not coming to an end, not with liberal indoctrination and not with conservatives ignoring the environment. Scan the threads then go to KOS. The rhetoric is the same. Otherwise, I don't follow you. Are you saying the president of UD is a communist?

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Bluejay writes:

Monday, November, 05, 2007 10:35 AM

Free Speech and Political Correctness

While in college in the late 50's, I took a political science course. We studied an essay titled "Let's not get out the vote." Current practice follows the same old get everyone to vote and maybe they will vote for the one with a familiar name or good looks. Congrats on the First Amendment topic, everyone voting falls in that same generality.

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Jeffslouie writes:

Monday, November, 05, 2007 10:36 AM

Thank you!

Mike,
You and Neal Boortz brought this to my attention. I brought it to my dad, my brothers, my gf, and anyone else who would listen. Like all 'pc' concepts, this one likely had good intentions until the elitist liberals that seem to gravitate towards the educational fields got a hold of it. Teach diversity. That's okay. Take it too far? Well that's 're-education' and another word for it is indoctrination. Had I been a parent who heard about this, I'd have taken the day off of work to 'visit' with the University president. That meeting might not have ended well. Parents should be outraged that instead of having students learn how to better think critically were forced to 'relearn' their own value systems, carefully crafted by parents. Values are supposed to be passed from parent to child, not from liberal educator to child. Teach my kids, don't indoctrinate them in your own image.

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len writes:

Monday, November, 05, 2007 11:23 AM

please join THEFIRE.org

I am a member. You can join for as little as you want \$25; so log in and help the cause

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USMC (Ret) writes: Monday, November, 05, 2007 12:10 PM

Is the president of UD a communist?

Well MikeR http://www.udel.edu/PR/UDaily/2008/oct/chengdu102807.html

like so many of the communists/stalinists/marxists/socialists he seems to be attempting to keep the masses (students) ignorant and compliant (from the now defunct indoctrination program). Especially now that he has a high paying and well living position.

All animals are equal, it's just some are more equal than others.

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