

"September 2nd Begins a New Era in Education"



COLLEGE OF THE UNITED STATES NEWSLETTER

Issue 4, December 2, 2005



Prospective Student Renee Alexiev

Advisory Board

We are pleased to announce the following addition to our Advisory Board:

*Jay Friedenberg, Ph.D. University of Virginia. Associate Chair and Associate Professor of Psychology at Manhattan College. Author of *Cognitive Science: An Introduction to the Study of Mind* as well as numerous articles on visual perception. Dr. Friedenberg is a member of the New York Academy of Sciences, The Psychonomic Society, Phi Beta Kappa, and Sigma Xi. See <http://www.manhattan.edu/academics/arts/psyc/faculty/jay.friedenberg.shtml> for more information*

Welcome and thanks for being willing to contribute your wisdom to this project!

Publicity

Parent Testimonial

We are pleased to announce our first pledged *student* at the college: Renee Alexiev. The following is a letter which her mother, Laurie, has written in support of our efforts, outlining her reasons. Mrs. Alexiev has given us permission to publish this letter on our website, along with Renee's picture (above):

“November 10, 2005
Templeton, California

For the past couple of years my husband and I have been struggling with the heretical idea of not sending our kids to college at least until they are mature enough to make their own judgment as to the value of ideas and education. The reason for that is our profound disappointment with the mediocrity of public schools in America today and the fact that college itself has become little more than remedial high-school with exorbitant fees. It is with this in mind, that both of us have become so excited about Marsha Enright's college project.

I knew that Marsha had been developing the concept for a College of the United States, but I didn't assume it might happen in time for my daughter to attend. I'm delighted to hear now that this may very well be a possibility.

I've known Marsha Enright since 1999 when my daughter first attended Camp Indecon, the summer camp Marsha helped develop to provide kids with a grounding in rational thinking and a free market philosophy. Both Marsha's curriculum and in- class instruction were enthusiastically received by her students. My three children loved their sessions with her. Sending our children to Camp Indecon has proven to be highly valuable, so much so that were longer term programs of that kind of integrated learning available (like the proposed college) we'd consider that a fabulous option for secondary education.

I have no doubt that Marsha's program will be exceptional, both conceptually and in practice, and with Marsha at the helm, I'm confident the entire venture will be successful. I'm delighted to think that other students will get the kind of inspirational environment in a four year college that my children have experienced first hand in camp and strongly support her exciting venture.

-Laurie Alexiev”

With timely funding, we can make Renee's enrollment possible!

Radio Interview

While in New Hampshire on November 11th, I was interviewed by Gardner Goldsmith on WNTK radio. Gardner asked me questions about Ayn Rand and her ideas, how they relate to education and the what, when, where and why of the new college. His website is: www.libertyconspiracy.com. Thanks to Wayne Anderson, Pathfinder Montessori School in Epsom, NH for making that interview possible.

Interesting Facts

Did anyone else see the article in the Chicago Tribune about the church of Universism? “A tall, slightly stooped medical student with dark hair that flops down his forehead, Vox speaks in a mumble and rarely lifts his eyes. But if he lacks confidence, that only makes him more qualified to lead his flock because Vox, 28, has created a religion for people who know only that they know nothing. Universists might believe in God, or might not. The only dogma they must accept is uncertainty. Relinquishing any hope of cosmic truth, Universists worship by wondering how we got here, and why, and what lies ahead.” ‘New faith’s creed: a mighty fortress is our uncertainty,’ *Chicago Tribune*, Friday, November 18, 2005.

While he practices in medicine, which has advanced to remarkable levels of efficacy because of the achievements of *science*, this man worships *doubt*. I don’t like doctors that practice confidence without careful basis for their opinions – but Vox would *really* scare me!

I’m concerned that this new ‘church’ is another manifestation destructive philosophical ideas in our culture. How many doctors are being affected by such core epistemological uncertainty?

Donations

Our website is now set up to receive donations through Paypal.

Organization

What you can do:

Website: We are in the process of developing the website, using new descriptive text, sections, pictures, links and FAQ’s. If any of you have suggestions, please send them to me.

Networking: If you know of other individuals or organizations that might be interested in learning about the College, please send me their information.

Financial Support: At the present, I have many letters out to prospective supporters and advisors. Of course, please send me any suggestions for possible financial supporters.

Advisors: I am looking in particular for well-qualified advisors who would be sympathetic to our mission in: biology, anthropology and archeology, literature, mathematics, and the fine arts. Please send me your suggestions.

Newsletter: Send in any ideas for improvements or topics of interest for the newsletter.

Thanks for your attention and help.

Marsha Familiaro Enright

Notice: If you do not want to be on this mailing list or have received this newsletter in error, please notify Marsha at marsha@collegeunitedstates.org

**9400 SOUTH DAMEN AVENUE
CHICAGO, IL 606**