



Written by [Staff](#) on July 25, 2023

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Inside Track

Penn State Faculty Support Discrimination Against Whites



(aimintang/iStock/Getty Images Plus)

Former Pennsylvania State University English Professor Zack De Piero filed a lawsuit against his former employer on June 15 alleging that the university discriminated against him because of his skin color. De Piero resigned from Penn State in August of 2022.

Rather than support their former colleague, reported The College Fix on July 12, nearly 400 Penn State professors signed a letter defending the university's "antiracism" practices. The "Letter in Support of Antiracist Faculty at Penn State" does not respond to the accusations in De Piero's suit, but rather dismisses it as another example of "attacks from reactionaries who claim that curricula, programs, and initiatives aimed at promoting inclusivity and equity are racist and divisive."

In a June interview with Fox News, De Piero said he was forced to attend a presentation entitled "White Teachers are a problem," in which he was told that he was "inherently flawed on the basis of history." "As a White individual, I'm somehow responsible for all the injustices and suffering currently in the world and in the history of the world," he noted.

In his lawsuit, De Piero alleges that there was a systematic effort by the school administration to denigrate him and other white faculty members. For example, white faculty were ordered to participate in an activity in which they were to hold their breath longer than people of color so as to "feel the pain that George Floyd endured."

The lawsuit also contends that he was required to penalize students academically on the basis of race. He offered the example that, if he had students from East Asia or the Indian subcontinent who excelled over individuals from other minority groups, he was to penalize them with lower grades so as to equalize outcomes on a racial basis.

Ironically, before taking the position at Penn State, Dr. De Piero taught in inner-city schools because he wanted to help students in those communities succeed.

— *Steve Byas*



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Nobel Laureate Blasts “Climate Crisis”



John F. Clauser (twitter.com/EcoSenseNow)

According to LifeSiteNews on July 13, Dr. John F. Clauser, one of three recipients of 2022’s Nobel Prize in physics for his work on quantum information science, has blasted the narrative of a climate emergency and claims that there is no climate crisis. Clauser’s statements were made in June at the “Quantum Korea 2023” conference on quantum technology.

“The popular narrative about climate change reflects a dangerous corruption of science that threatens the world’s economy and the well-being of billions of people,” Clauser said. “Misguided climate science has metastasized into massive shock-journalistic pseudoscience,” and “in turn, the pseudoscience has become a scapegoat for a wide variety of other unrelated ills. It has been promoted and extended by similarly misguided business marketing agents, politicians, journalists, government agencies, and environmentalists.”

“In my opinion, there is no real climate crisis,” he said. “There is, however, a very real problem with providing a decent standard of living to the world’s large population and an associated energy crisis. The latter is being unnecessarily exacerbated by what, in my opinion, is incorrect climate science.”

Clauser has criticized climate models used to predict “global warming,” noting that they do not account for the dramatic temperature stabilization provided by clouds, and has developed his own model taking this into account. According to him, the regulating effect of reflective cloud cover is 50 times as strong as any warming effect produced by CO₂.

Despite Clauser’s Nobel Prize credentials, climate hysterics have either ignored his opinions on climate change or claimed that he’s not the right type of scientist to have an opinion.

In May, Clauser was named to the board of directors of the CO₂ Coalition, a group of scientists dedicated to extolling the benefits of carbon dioxide and its necessary role in our environment. Other esteemed members of the group include physicist Dr. William Happer, geologist Dr. Gregory Wrightstone, and physicist Dr. Richard Lindzen.

— *Jim Murphy*



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Reparations Task Force Submits Recommendations



(ineskoleva/iStock/Getty Images Plus)

After two years of research “documenting how enslavement and its enduring legacy of systemic racism cemented structural inequality,” the California Reparations Task Force released its final report on June 29.

Recommendations found in the more than 1,000 pages of the report include a formal apology to descendants of African slaves in the United States, and reforms with suggested policies covering healthcare, housing, education, the “unjust” legal system, the wealth gap, and more. As *The Washington Times* noted on July 11, “Embedded in the ... report is a veritable leftist to-do list that includes: universal health insurance for Black residents, a guaranteed basic income, free college tuition, ‘forgivable’ interest-free loans to small businesses and erasing interest debt on unpaid child support. [The report] also recommends ending policing of nuisance violations such as public urination, allowing Black LGBTQ youth to receive confidential ‘mental health care’ without parental permission, and adopting ‘rent caps’ in historically red-lined areas.”

California Attorney General Rob Bonta praised the recommendations, committing his state to “the healing and restoration of our African American residents.” However, Los Angeles radio host and Republican presidential hopeful Larry Elder “blasted the reparations concept as ‘nonsense’ and criticized the task force’s hard-left tilt,” telling Fox News on July 10, “There’s not a single conservative on this panel.... It’s one left-wing person after another — nobody from the center, nobody from the right, no conservatives.” And eight of the nine members of the panel are black.

The reparations could total over \$800 billion. According to the report, the amount suggested “is an economically conservative initial assessment of what losses, at a minimum, the State of California caused or could have prevented, but did not.... Further data collection and research would be required to augment these initial loss-estimates.”

The state’s Legislature won’t consider the report’s recommendations until next year.

— David Kelly



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Federal Court Blocks Construction of Pipeline



(Ben-Schonewille/iStock/Getty Images Plus)

The *New York Post* reported on July 11 that the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit blocked completion of the Mountain Valley Pipeline (MVP), which would deliver natural gas from West Virginia into southern Virginia. The pipeline had been fast-tracked by Congress last month as part of a compromise on the controversial debt-ceiling deal.

On July 10, the Fourth Circuit issued the stay on construction of the pipeline despite being stripped of jurisdiction over the project in the compromise. The court included no rationale for its decision, but has blocked construction on the pipeline several times, previously tossing a permit issued by Virginia's Department of Environmental Quality, claiming that the agency made a mistake in issuing the permit, and earlier this year throwing out permits issued by the U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management.

Senator Joe Manchin (D-W.V.), long a vocal supporter of the pipeline, called the court's intervention "unlawful." "The law passed by Congress & signed by POTUS is clear — the 4th Circuit no longer has jurisdiction over MVP's construction permits. This new order halting construction is unlawful."

Manchin had traded permitting reform for the project in his deal with Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-N.Y.) and the White House for his deciding vote on 2022's inappropriately named Inflation Reduction Act.

Caught in the middle of this mess is Equitrans Midstream, the Pennsylvania-based natural-gas company involved in the construction of the pipeline.

"We are disappointed with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit's remarkable decision to grant a one-sentence stay halting all construction ... with no explanation. The Court's decision defies the will and clear intent of a bipartisan Congress and this Administration in passing legislation to expedite completion of the Mountain Valley Pipeline project," the company declared in a July 11 statement. "We are evaluating all legal options, which include filing an emergency appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court."

Absent a reversal from the Supreme Court, the stay will likely remain in place.



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