Katznelson Symposium Delves into Troubled History of Affirmative Action Policy

Was Katrina a Moment of Reckoning?

By Eileen C. Guillo

According to leading African-American historians, the recent visit of the Dalai Lama to Columbia, page 12.

The Untold History of Racial Inequality

In his latest work, Katznelson argues that today’s concepts of affirmative action find their roots not in the Civil Rights movement of the 1960s, as is commonly thought, but in the New Deal policies of the 1930s and 1940s. Black Americans would have made more progress today, he claims, had they been able to benefit from New and Fair Deal legislation. Instead, the Democratic leadership succumbed to pressure from powerful Southern Democrats, who insisted upon making provisions to the laws that would allow them to preserve racial segregation in the South, where most blacks lived.

When social security legislation was enacted in 1935, for example, farmworkers and domestics, the two most common occupations for blacks at the time, were ineligible.

The scenario repeated itself with the 1938 Fair Labor Standards Act, the benefits of which applied to factory workforces, where most blacks lived. But the most compelling example Katznelson cites is the GI Bill, which did more than any other program in the 20th century to create a large

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Trustees Elect New Chair and Three New Members

President Lee C. Bollinger has announced the election of William V. Campbell as the new chair of the University Trustees, and of three distinguished alumni—Patricia M. Cloherty, Ann F. Kaplan and Michael B. Rothfeld—as new members.

William V. Campbell, a former executive of Apple Computer, Kodak and Intuit, is a 1962 alumnus of Columbia College. He captained the Lions football team to the Ivy League championship in 1961 and returned to coach the Lions from 1974 to 1979 before embarking on a career in business.

Over the decades, Campbell’s contributions to Columbia University have been extensive. They range from the renovation of the Aldo T. ”Buff” Donelli Intercollegiate Strength Room in the Dodge Physical Fitness Center, to the endowment of the Roberta and William Campbell Professorship in Contemporary Civilization. Campbell has received both Columbia College’s prestigious Alexander Hamilton Medal (2000) and the John Jay Award (1991). “Bill has never wavered in his support of Columbia,” said Bollinger. “I know that his deep and passionate commitment and proven leadership to his alma mater will be enormously important to the future.”

A leader in the software industry, Campbell served as president and CEO of Intuit from 1994 to 2000, and had previously served as president and CEO of GO Corporation. He was also founder, president and CEO of Claris Corporation.

Before starting Claris, Campbell was executive vice president of Apple Computer. In 1983 he joined Apple Computer from Kodak, where he had been general manager of consumer products for Kodak Europe.

Prior to joining Kodak, Campbell was vice president at J. Walter Thompson in New York.

He continues to serve on the boards of Apple Computer and Opsware Inc., and is a director of the National Football Foundation College Hall of Fame.