

Controversy Mounts Over Comments by Harvard President Larry Summers

A wave of criticism has been building at Harvard University over some comments uttered by University President Larry Summers as he tried to ascribe suspicious tenure rate discrepancies to innate biological differences. According to several sources, who did not request anonymity but are receiving it nonetheless because their names are hard to pronounce, Summers gave the following remarks at a recent socio-economic research conference.

"We must consider the possibility that there are fewer undead professors at Harvard because of intrinsic biological differences. I mean, seriously, the living simply have more time to devote to academic research and consistently score higher on standardized math and science tests than the deceased. I could be completely wrong here, but studies of identical heads severed at birth seem to clearly bear this thesis out. Listen, I sincerely wish the problem was based on socialization alone, and of course, I fundamentally respect and admire the undead on the faculty here – especially in light of all the years of social injustice and oppression they've had to endure – but clearly zombies have other concerns on their minds, for example, their innate drive to consume the flesh of living, tenured science professors who are at least 4-5 standard deviations above the mean."



One of one undead Professors in the Harvard Physics Department, just a few key papers shy of tenure. Or at least that's what the department chair has said since 1985.

A zombie from MIT stormed out of the conference in protest (or rather shuffled out with a maximum of scary and incomprehensible mumbling) and the next day Summers received a scathing letter from the Skeleton Overlord of Tufts: "It is a travesty that at Harvard, a university with such a fine reputation and excess of intelligent and delectable brains, there could still exist such archaic joie de vivreism. Outrageous!" As undead assistant professor of astronomy Maxine Anderson explained to HSP, "I figured tenure would have been settled after my third Nobel prize for the Thorne-Hawking-Anderson wormhole time machine, but it turns out that I'm a little better at predicting quantum gravitational corrections to the Kerr-Newman metric than department politics. On the bright side, at least they've still got me on the payroll," added Anderson, as she finished off the lower part of a graduate student's leg as punishment for failing his quals. 🇺🇸

FDA Withdraws Soma

In a brave new move that surprised the shit out of global uber pharmaceutical giants Pfizer, Merck, GlaxoSmithKline, Novartis, Amgen, and Astra Zeneca, the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) recently announced the complete withdrawal of Soma, the much heralded wonder drug that alphas, betas, and gammas alike have been popping for decades for anything from minor anxiety to severe head injuries.



"Although Soma has long been touted as having all the advantages of Christianity and alcohol and none of their defects," noted Dr. Randolph G. Friedman of UC San Diego's newly endowed Kavli Cardiac Research Center, "unfortunately, it turns out that the drug results in a minor increase in the risk of heart disease amongst 40-70 year old men and women with at least one a cat or a screenplay in preparation."

"It's a real buzz kill what the FDA did," added U.S. Surgeon General Vice Admiral Richard H. Carmona, M.D., M.P.H., F.A.C.S, N.B.A, B.B.C, "I've been dropping Soma pills like they were breath mints since 1965. Guess I'll have to rough it for a while and prescribe myself some codeine until this whole mess washes over."

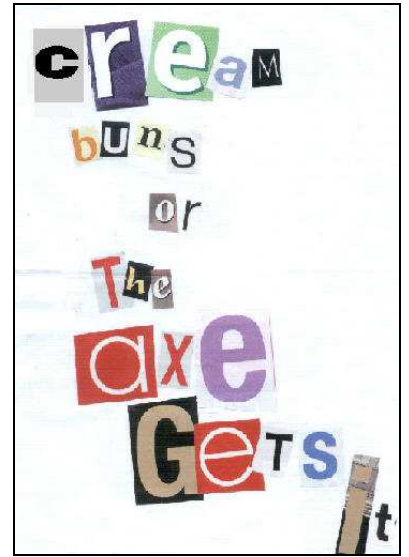
After the recent voluntary withdrawal of Vioxx – a widely used Cox-II inhibitor designed to relieve chronic joint pain, inflammation, and arthritis symptoms – by prominent drug maker Merck, the pharmaceutical industry itself has been feeling the pains of mounting economic pressure. Merck itself added, "A gramme is better than a damn, and I'll be damned if I let all this delicious Soma go to waste. And it's not just the inhuman, multi-national corporation in me worrying frantically about my own teetering financial existence. Think of all the people out there."

Indeed, without her Soma, area woman Lenina Orwell was left to face the horrors of suburban Denver unaided. Until further research is able to identify a suitable replacement drug, doctors recommend doubling the dose of the well known shorter lasting, lower potency, drugs, Dozabrex, Napsomor, or Snoozextra. 🇺🇸

Terrorist's Demands Getting Ridiculous

Beslan, Chechnya - *Note found outside Russian school.*

"325 children, 27 adult teaching staff hostages to be released pending the following conditions. I demand a fully fueled helicopter, diplomatic immunity in all nations, and a secure wireless connection. I further demand hard currency consisting of one and a quarter million Swiss Francs, a harem of pleasure girls, and that one new game on Play Station 2 with the car racing. I demand J. Lo. I demand 10 cheeseburgers every day for the rest of my life. I demand no onions. I demand that they change the U.S. \$20 bill back to the old design. I demand Play-Doh, lots of it, and a nuclear submarine for my cousin Viktor and his band of mercenary pseudo-nationalists after they are released from your top security prison-island north of the Arctic circle. I demand that string theorists finally figure out a way to test their theory via experiment, and that SETI immediately detect comprehensible signals from a nearby, advanced, extra-terrestrial civilization. And finally, in conclusion, I demand world peace, brotherly love, and good will towards all humankind. If these demands are met, precisely, without trickery, within the hour, I swear solemnly on the graves of my honored ancestors that no one will be hurt." 🇷🇺

**Saddam Reportedly Growing Rabbit Ears**

Washington D.C. – Saddam Hussein, once Iraq's brutal dictator has, for the past year or so, been locked up in a secret jail somewhere in the world. Though this may be nothing more than a D.C. cocktail joke gone out of control, supposedly, the exact location of Hussein's whereabouts are said to be so undisclosed that even the wardens responsible for him and Dick Cheney aren't sure where they are. But I digress. A recent leak from a source placed highly in the federal department of corrections, (i.e. somewhere near the top of the building), has revealed that Mr. Saddam Hussein – who is increasingly being referred to by his new pet name Sadi – is apparently growing rabbit ears. This anatomical marvel has completely befuddled the handful of medical specialists allowed to examine him. As one of the doctors recently told HSP, "...off the record, this new phenomenon with ol' Sadi has really befuddled us. Sure, he's not in a five-star hotel, but that's no reason to start turning into an herbivore on us." The doctor went on to express his fears of the political fallout that is now expected. Indeed we now hear of plans from both the EU and the International Red Cross to convene an emergency press conference to express their outrage that the erstwhile warlord/dictator is not being housed in an environment where his auditory appendages would be free from unexplained animal transformations. 🇷🇺

Superman Being Investigated By INS

Smallville, USA - The U.S Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) has launched today a full investigation into the validity of Clark Kent's U.S. citizenship. Following Kent's arrest, INS spokesman Captain America gave a short statement to the press while casually brandishing a broadsword crafted from solid Kryptonite.

"I am personally disgusted at the vast conspiracy that has been surrounding Mr. Kent's legal status for so many years. Almost all of the people we so far interviewed admit to have known for years that Mr. Kent (a.k.a. Superman) was not born on U.S. soil, nor did he have American parents, and yet none of them chose to alert the authorities of his illegal residence. It was only with a recent tip from one L. Luthor that this matter finally came to our attention. It must be made absolutely clear that after the 9/11 attacks, we can no longer afford to tolerate illegal aliens hiding among us. For all we know he may be part of a sleeper cell, planted by some Islamic terrorist group. Being a superhero and saving the world countless times is no excuse for not going through the proper immigration procedures as dictated by the law." 🇷🇺

