

Sunday, September 16, 2018, 4:43 pm ET

MEDIA ADVISORY

### **Factual information on John McCain and Gallaudet University**

Research has confirmed that John McCain, during his 11-year appointment as a Congressional member of the Gallaudet Board of Trustees, from 1995 to 2006, never attended a single board meeting proper (a meeting where votes were taken, as opposed to simply an informal gathering, for example, in the president's mansion on campus). I. King Jordan's recent claim that John McCain was "perhaps the most involved and active" Congressional member of the Gallaudet Board of Trustees during his time as university president (1988 to 2006) is simply untrue. Jordan should have easily known that Steve Gunderson (who actually *did* attend official Gallaudet Board of Trustees meetings) was the most active Congressional member.

As usual, Jordan spoke with what had to be deliberate disregard for the truth, in pursuit of a political objective (presumably, attempting to rehabilitate his image by getting his name inserted prominently into a Gallaudet University communication). The media is strongly cautioned to [never take any pronouncement of I. King Jordan's at face value](#). Every claim should be carefully fact-checked before being disseminated (for those who wish to uphold standards and ethics in journalism).

Video of Steve Gunderson reminiscing about the Deaf President Now protest:

<http://gallyprotest.org/gunderson.wmv>

Saturday, August 25, 2018, 12:55 pm ET; small emendations, Sept. 16, 2018

Commentary:

After re-reading [the 2008 Rolling Stone article](#) yesterday, "[Make Believe Maverick](#)," which describes many incredibly misguided and disturbing events in the life of John McCain, including his callous treatment of women and reckless support of waging war in Iraq (with him also being one of the early, prime movers in spreading false intelligence information), it seems astonishing now, looking in retrospect, that former Gallaudet President I. King Jordan would want to make any positive statements about this man whatsoever. One is inclined to wonder whether sheer stupidity can account for such

awful aberrance, but then rightly dismiss such hypothesis quickly when surveying the social (and even physical) destruction left in the wake of such monstrous behavior.

We see then how fortunate we are to have been able to eject this evil ethos from our midst, as part of the massive and necessary and collective efforts of the 2006 protest. It was not any kind of example of a mixed case, where someone demonstrates admirable excellence for the most part (and beyond), but stumbles badly in one instance, and therefore finds it necessary to retreat from public involvement for a time to reflect on ones errors and find a way to accomplish redemption. People who find themselves in such situations have a difficult road ahead, but the nature of human frailty, combined with the possibility of redemption and making amends, allows for healing and for justice to eventually prevail, and for the violator to be fully restored to society, even sometimes (rarely) in a leadership role.

While there appears to have been [people around him who might fit such a scenario](#) (and it is difficult in such ancillary cases to learn the facts in order to get a clear picture of what has happened in such cases), our Eighth Gallaudet President himself, however, seems clearly not to fit this description. His acts of harm toward the Gallaudet Community seem now, in retrospect, to be too great and his comprehension of what happened seems to be much too little. Combine the “too great” and the “too little” and it seems that the possibility of redemption in his particular case is virtually nil (and if anyone is a position to find a method of redemption and is able to reach him, morally, then such an effort would certainly be welcome.)

This commentator remembers now personally meeting John McCain, very briefly, at a campaign event in California when Senator McCain was accompanying Senator Dole in his bid for the office of the presidency in 1996. I didn't personally speak with him, but my friend who was with me did, and the comment that McCain made might have seemed typical of a politician to those who don't have a wider view of circumstances. He remarked that citizens need to always be ready to make sacrifices for the greater good, and even sacrifice their “blood” (i.e. give up their life) sometimes when necessary. Thinking about that now in the context of what is known about his life, such a remark now seems vaguely fascistic, and it becomes much easier to appreciate the social gains we made in the University Community in 2006 (when McCain voluntarily removed himself from the Community). One would hope that anyone with a decent amount of common sense and enough inside knowledge of circumstances would have been [running away](#) from such a political player as fast as his feet could carry him – but alas such was not the case.

It appears now that we are slowly beginning to see perhaps the main strengths of our current university president, Roberto Cordano, namely, the confident and consistent exercise of common sense, combined with the ability to ascertain surrounding contexts accurately to enable effective action. If this trend continues, then we will be a fortunate university community indeed.

–BR

Note: The following is from an inset box included in the print version of *Rolling Stone's* 2008 article, "Make Believe Maverick," October 16, 2008, printed page number 62:

## JOHN McCAIN'S INNER CIRCLE

The "maverick" senator has packed his campaign team with lobbyists and right-wing hardliners from the Washington elite



Charlie Black

### **Serves As**

Senior adviser

### **Dark Past**

Top consultant to senators Jesse Helms and Phil Gramm; top lobbyist for WMD-hoaxer Ahmad Chalabi. Black's K Street firm also lobbied for murderous Zaire strongman Mobutu Sese Seko, tobacco giant Philip Morris and Freddie Mac.

### **Dark Present**

Lobbied for retroactive immunity for AT&T's illegal wiretapping.

### **Actually Said**

That a new terrorist strike "would be a big advantage to McCain."



**Phil Gramm**

**Serves As**

Unofficial adviser

**Dark Past**

As head of Senate Banking Committee, pushed through massive deregulation for banks, investment houses and insurance companies. Inserted provision in 2000 budget to prohibit regulation of the credit “swaps” at the heart of the current subprime meltdown.

**Dark Present**

Vice chair of investment giant UBS, which lost \$42 billion in the mortgage crisis.

**Actually Said**

That the current recession is “mental” and America is a “nation of whiners.”



**Steve Schmidt**

**Serves As**

Senior strategist

### **Dark Past**

Rovian operator who directed George W. Bush's campaign war room in 2004, painting John Kerry as a flip-flopper. From a desk in Dick Cheney's office, shepherded the Supreme Court nominations of John Roberts and Samuel Alito.

### **Dark Present**

Launched full-scale attack on "elite media" for trying to "destroy" Palin.

### **Actually Said**

That *The New York Times* is a "pro-Obama advocacy organization" and "150 percent in the tank" for Obama.



**Randy Scheunemann**

### **Serves As**

Foreign-policy adviser

### **Dark Past**

Senior adviser to Jesse Helms; lobbied to prevent federal safety inspections of roller coasters. Ran the Committee for the Liberation of Iraq, a White House-backed propaganda machine; advised Rumsfeld on the Iraq War.

### **Dark Present**

Crafted McCain's Russia policy while lobbying firm took \$200,000 from Georgia.

### **Actually Said**

That Obama's willingness to talk to America's foes is "unilateral cowboy summitry."



Rick Davis

### **Serves As**

Campaign manager

### **Dark Past**

Top lobbyist; received \$2 million from Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac to fend off regulation. As head of "Reform Institute," fought "corrupt fundraising" -- by accepting donations from companies with business before McCain's committee.

### **Dark Present**

Through August, lobbying firm pocketed \$15,000 a month from Freddie Mac.

### **Actually Said**

That questions about Palin's church are "literally an attack on Christianity itself."

[End inset box]

See:

[http://saveourdeafschools.org/make\\_believe\\_maverick.pdf](http://saveourdeafschools.org/make_believe_maverick.pdf)

See also:

<http://gallyprotest.org>

And:

[http://gallyprotest.org/press\\_releases.pdf](http://gallyprotest.org/press_releases.pdf)

See also:

<https://theintercept.com/2018/09/21/michael-moores-fahrenheit-119-aims-not-at-trump-but-at-those-who-created-the-conditions-that-led-to-his-rise>

("People around him" hyperlink added: Sept. 17, 2018; Glen Greenwald link added: Sept. 23, 2018)