Support for the Tea Party from an Academic

*Angelo Codevilla’s new book: the anger is legitimate*

Rare is the professor whose latest book can boast a gushing introduction by Rush Limbaugh. But when the book sides with the Tea Party movement, it’s perhaps inevitable that it will attract the attention of one of the country’s preeminent conservative commentators. The volume, by Angelo Codevilla, a College of Arts & Sciences international relations professor emeritus, earned Limbaugh’s endorsement by making the Tea Party case “more soberly, bluntly and constructively than anyone else has done,” according to a *New York Times* reviewer.

The Ruling Class: How They Corrupted America and What We Can Do About It (Beaufort Books, 2010) argues that an elite, bipartisan “Ruling Class”—comprising Democratic politicians and voters, Republican political leaders, and government bureaucrats—has overtaxed, overregulated, and scorned the “Country Class” or “Country Party,” Codevilla’s term for all those who dissent from the Ruling Class’ views. Rather than serve the common good, he writes, modern liberalism’s government programs serve well-connected special interests.

With several Tea Party–backed candidates in the new Congress, you’d think Codevilla would be gleeful. But he outlines more ambitious goals than cutting federal spending and taxes. The Country Class can only reassert itself, he says, by recapturing a civic involvement and self-governance that it has ceded to bureaucrats. He points out that there were 117,000 school boards in 1940; today, they have congealed into just 15,000 school districts, giving Americans less chance “to exercise responsibilities similar to their grandparents” in running schools.

But Codevilla says it’s not certain that either the Republican Party or the larger Country Party is willing to take up the burdens of citizenship “that their fathers and mothers laid down a generation ago—meaning service in local government and doing without some of the entitlements and administrative agencies that have come to characterize our lives. The differences between the agendas of the Republican and Democratic parties are really more apparent than they are real.”

And he takes issue with the liberal argument that the poor and working class suffered when the government interfered less in the private sector. “If that were the case,” he says, “why did millions of immigrants come to this supposed vale of tears and exploitation? This country was, because of its lack of regulation, a place where people could own what they earned and do what they wished with it.”

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BU Poised to Impact Cancer Research

*Cross-campus collaboration nets $2 million NIH nanomedicine grant*

The National Cancer Institute’s Alliance for Nanotechnology in Cancer has tapped a multidisciplinary research team, comprising members of the Charles River and Medical Campuses, to launch a training center to help grow the next generation of nanomedicine researchers in cancer. The announcement comes with a five-year, $2 million grant.

An offshoot of nanotechnology, nanomedicine is medical intervention at the molecular scale for treating disease or repairing damaged tissues. A nanometer is one-billionth of a meter, too small to be seen through a conventional laboratory microscope. Biological molecules and structures inside living cells typically operate at less than 100 nanometers.

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Harnessing nanoparticles to deliver drugs, heat, light, or other substances to specific cells could dramatically alter the future of diagnoses, prognoses, and treatments for a range of diseases. Traditional chemotherapy, for example, is delivered through the vein and exposes the entire body to its potent effects.

“If you can deliver chemotherapy specifically to sites, you not only concentrate the chemotherapy at the site of the tumor, but decrease the side effects and off-target effects,” says Douglas Faller, a School of Medicine professor, director of the BU Cancer Center, and one of the grant’s primary investigators. “We’re taking a very blunt instrument, systemic chemotherapy, and turning it into a targeted approach.”

In 2009, cancer was responsible for more than 550,000 deaths in the United States, according to the researchers. New diagnoses in 2010 were anticipated to top 1.5 million and deaths to come close to 570,000, with projections growing as the population ages.

The $2 million training center grant, distributed under the umbrella of the National Institutes of Health, will allow BU graduate students and postdoctoral fellows to train in research labs focused on developing diagnostic and therapeutic tools for various types of cancer, from purification...