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April 28, 2005

Dr. Kerry Rowe, Vice-Principal (Research)  
Richardson Hall,  
Queen's University

Dear Dr. Rowe,

**Re: Allegation of Misconduct in Academic Research-  
Paper Published by R.W. Smith in the Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences**

I am writing this letter in accordance with Article 17 of the Collective Agreement. I am referring to the following paper by R.W. Smith:

R.W. Smith, Ann. N.Y. Acad. Sci. 974: 176-192 (2002).

A copy of this paper and other relevant documents are enclosed.

R.W. Smith, Ann. N.Y. Acad. Sci. 974: 176-192 (2002)

This paper describes research that apparently has been funded by the Canadian Space Agency and NSERC. This paper contains significant materials that are plagiarized. The plagiarized parts are highlighted. The paper has been accepted for publication through a conference, and it appears that the co-editor of the conference who is the author of the paper has edited the paper.

It has come to light now that the author has copied almost the entire paper from another paper which was published 4 years earlier (R.W. Smith, International Symposium on Experimental Methods for Micro-gravity Materials Science Research, pp. 10<sup>th</sup>; 1998: San Antonio, Texas). A copy of this paper is enclosed. The evidence that scientific misconduct occurred is compelling. The author has intentionally changed the title of the paper to mislead and to give the impression that the paper is original. The fact that the author has intentionally changed the symbols in Figures 9 and 13 and has eliminated the earlier publication from the list of references compounds the problem. This paper should be retracted.

Note: Significant parts of the paper published in 1998 are lifted from another paper that was published in 1996 in Materials Science Forum, Vols. 215-216 (1996) pp. 67-80) (enclosed).

Sincerely,

M. Shirkhazadeh  
Associate Professor  
Department of Mechanical Engineering

Enc.