



Natural Sciences and Engineering
Research Council of Canada

350 Albert Street
Ottawa, Canada
K1A 1H5

Conseil de recherches en sciences
naturelles et en génie du Canada

350, rue Albert
Ottawa, Canada
K1A 1H5

PROTECTED

November 21, 2005

[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

I am writing with regards to allegations of misconduct that were communicated to NSERC by [Redacted]. The allegations include repeat publication of identical papers, plagiarism of publications and of thesis work, falsification and fabrication of data. [Redacted] has provided NSERC with copies of letters that he previously sent to your office dated February 22, 2005, March 22, 2005, April 12, 2005, April 25, 2005, April 28, 2005, May 16, 2005, June 13, 2005, July 29, 2005 and October 12, 2005. Supporting documentation was also provided with each of the letters. The individuals that are the subjects of the complaints are identified in the aforementioned letters from [Redacted].

In accordance with the *Tri-Council Policy on Integrity in Research and Scholarship: Integrity in Research and Scholarship (TCPS-I)* Section 2(b), I am requesting that the University conduct an investigation into these allegations. Given the sensitivity of allegations of this nature, NSERC expects that, in carrying out this investigation, the University will pay particular attention to the issues of:

- avoiding real or apparent conflicts of interest in selecting individuals to participate in the investigation; *
- allowing the person(s) against whom the allegation has been made full opportunity to respond to allegations and comment on the findings;
- providing an opportunity for the person(s) affected by the alleged behaviour (the complainant) to comment during the investigation;
- ensuring that any comments, information and documentation collected during the investigation become part of the record;
- informing the parties (complainant and respondents) of the conclusions reached in the investigation. *

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The *TCPS-I* requires that the University provide NSERC with a report of its findings, within the timeframe specified in your institutional policy on integrity/misconduct (normally 60 days from the date the investigating committee is created). The report should contain enough detail to enable NSERC to determine that an appropriate enquiry process was followed, and whether or not misconduct occurred. If it is determined that misconduct did occur, the report should also provide enough detail for NSERC to determine the nature and degree of the misconduct, and the role of the researcher(s) in committing the misconduct. Finally, the report should indicate whether the university has imposed any sanction or remedial action, and describe any actions taken to protect or restore the reputation(s) or credibility of any person(s) wrongly accused of, or implicated in, misconduct in research, including procedures to ensure that if the charges have been dismissed copies of documents and related files provided to third parties have been destroyed; and any actions taken to protect the person(s) deemed to have made a responsible accusation.

*

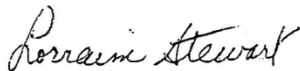
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Once the report is received and reviewed, NSERC may request clarification or additional information. Please note that all correspondence and documentation provided to NSERC on this matter are subject to the provisions of the federal Privacy and Access to Information Acts. In this regard, information provided may be accessible to the affected parties. We also expect the University to maintain the confidentiality of the information, sharing it strictly on a need-to-know basis.

Your cooperation in this matter is appreciated.

Sincerely,



Lorraine Stewart
Research Ethics and
Environmental Assessment Coordinator