



PRINCIPAL AND
VICE-CHANCELLOR

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April 6, 2011

Dr. Morteza Shirkhazadeh
Mechanical and Materials Engineering
Queen's University

Dear Dr. Shirkhazadeh:

The Board of Trustees has asked me to respond to your complaints to the Board about academic integrity matters that you allege have not been addressed appropriately.

I had previously reviewed the processes followed by the Office of the Vice-Principal (Research) since 2005 in response to your complaints and I examined those processes again in the context of your recent communication to the Board. In doing so, I considered your email of March 16, in which you raise three specific issues.

You claim that Vice-Principal Liss failed to address your concerns regarding what you have called unresolved academic integrity issues. Vice-Principal Liss played no role in the earlier investigative processes, but determined, after his own review, that his predecessor, Vice-Principal Rowe, had conducted an exhaustive examination of all of your allegations. It was and remains Vice-Principal Liss's opinion that the investigative process was sound and the conclusions reached appropriate. I concur with his view. I have also concluded that all academic integrity issues which were raised by you were fully addressed in the various investigations which have been conducted over the years. The findings were accepted by NSERC, which now considers the matter closed.

You also claim that in his Official Statement of December 14th, Vice-Principal Liss misrepresented the facts of the case itself and omitted crucial facts. In my opinion, the Statement to which you allude constitutes a true representation of the case in its essentials.

Finally, you claim that Vice-Principal Liss has violated the Research Integrity Policy. I disagree. When he assumed his position in September, 2010, he informed himself about your complaints, the various investigations which had been conducted over the years and their results, including the conclusions of NSERC. His conclusion that the University's processes had been followed was, in my opinion, justified.

Many staff members have spent countless hours looking into your allegations. I hope you will now accept the University's findings. I consider this matter closed.

Sincerely,

Daniel R. Woolf
Principal and Vice-Chancellor

cc: Bill Young, Chair, Board of Trustees