

August 27, 2008

Dr. Rusi P. Taleyarkhan  
Professor of Nuclear Engineering  
School of Nuclear Engineering  
NUCL

Re: Sanctions for Research Misconduct

Dear Dr. Taleyarkhan:

On April 18, 2008, the Investigation Committee appointed under Executive Memorandum No. C-22, Policy on Integrity in Research, ["C-22"] issued its Final Report concerning allegations of research misconduct against you. This report has been reviewed and accepted by the Office of Naval Research.

On July 22, 2008, you appealed the findings of the Investigation Committee.

Pursuant to C-22, I appointed a three person committee to consider your appeal. I have now received the Report of the Appeals Committee dated August 21, 2008. The Appeals Committee report states, "our unanimous conclusion is that the Investigation Committee did adhere to due process in accord with C-22 and that it did have an evidentiary basis for the conclusions that it reached. Therefore, our decision is to affirm the decision in the April 18, 2008 C-22 Investigation Committee Final Report. The Appeal is denied."

Based upon the determination of the Appeals Committee, it is my responsibility under C-22 to impose sanctions upon you as a result of the findings that you are guilty of research misconduct as defined by C-22. In considering the sanctions to impose, I have been guided by the principle that the sanctions should address and be proportional to the specific findings of research misconduct.

In my judgment as Purdue's chief academic officer, it is inappropriate for a faculty member who has been found guilty of research misconduct to hold the title of a Named University Professor. Therefore, I am removing the designation of Arden L. Bement, Jr. Professor of Nuclear Engineering from your title as of this date. All rights and privileges associated with this distinction, including the allocation of discretionary resources, are hereby withdrawn.

I concur in the assessment of the Investigation Committee that, "the effects of this matter on the students and post-doctoral fellows are especially deplorable. Mentors of young scientists need to exhibit the highest standards of ethical behavior and collegiality." For a minimum of three (3) years from the date of this letter, your status as a member of Purdue University's Graduate Faculty will be limited to that of "Special Graduate Faculty." You will be permitted to serve on graduate committees but will not be able to serve as a major professor or co-major professor for graduate students during this time. During this period, your mentoring of graduate

students will be monitored and reviewed. At the end of the initial three year period, your Graduate Faculty status will be reviewed by the Head of Nuclear Engineering, Dean of Engineering, and Provost. If there are no further issues involving your mentorship of graduate students, you may seek restoration of Full Graduate Faculty status from the Graduate School. If there are further documented issues of you engaging in inappropriate behavior involving graduate students, you will, at a minimum, continue as Special Graduate Faculty with continued review and monitoring for up to an additional three (3) years.

Finally, you should consider this letter itself as a formal reprimand for your conduct, and a copy will placed in your University personnel file.

C-22 provides that, "Determinations made under this policy as to the culpability of the accused and the findings of fact shall be deemed final, and all proceedings under existing University grievance procedures shall be limited to issues concerning the appropriateness of any sanctions imposed." You may grieve the appropriateness of the sanctions that I have imposed pursuant to the procedures set forth in Executive Memorandum No. C-19 (revised), Grievance Procedures for Academic Personnel, [http://www.purdue.edu/policies/pages/human\\_resources/c\\_19.html](http://www.purdue.edu/policies/pages/human_resources/c_19.html). This concludes the proceedings against you under C-22

Sincerely,



William R. Woodson  
Provost

cc: Leah H. Jamieson, John A. Edwardson Dean of Engineering  
Jon A. Story, Interim Dean, The Graduate School  
Vincent Bralts, Head, School of Nuclear Engineering