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January 3, 1994

Dr. Robert Kennedy
Vice President and Associate Provost
Texas A&M University
College Station, TX 77843-3121

COPY

Dear Dr. Kennedy,

Many thanks for the copy of your memo to President Gage dated December 16, 1993 regarding concerns about my husband's Due Process and Academic Freedom.

My concerns are more serious now than ever.

Distinguished Professor John O'M. Bockris, my husband, is the world's leading electrochemist with over 700 scientific publications and more than 20 books to his credit. He is recipient of 5 scientific medals, 7 scientific awards and 3 monograph volumes published in tribute to his scientific accomplishments.

As such he has enhanced the academic reputation of TAMU.

Throughout the PUBLIC LYNCHING and the HARASSMENT my husband now has to suffer - throughout his defamation and denunciation made to the media by "professors who wish to remain anonymous" as well as letters and rumors to the media by Drs. Kemp, Fackler, Cotton, Duff and Wakefield - my husband has kept silent.

The public and students are well aware that Prof. Bockris has remained a gentleman and a scholar much in contrast to the unprofessional public belligerence and ridicule displayed by the administration and some of the faculty members.

My husband's research was publically distorted to the media as "MEDIEVAL ALCHEMY".

Nevertheless, his work has been an uninhibited search for truth and its open expression. Academic Freedom is described in the PPM 2.3.2.5 as being allowed to voice and publish his individual conclusions concerning the significance of evidence that he considers relevant.

The relevance in the Philadelphia Project has been into solid state nuclear reactions which have been found in different elements. One of the aims will be the conversion of harmful nuclear waste products into stable, safe substances which are environmentally protective.

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Dr. Kennedy:.....Philadelphia Project, cont'd.

My husband's critics misunderstood and distorted the nature of his work. They consequently subjected him to the corrosive fear that others, inside or outside the university community, because their views may differ, may threaten his professional career or the material benefits from it.

It has been a merciless harassment, culminating in Dr. Cotton's effort to have 23 Distinguished Professors sign a "REQUEST" to the Provost to revoke my husband's title of Distinguished Professor. Exhibit 16 of the addenda, pp.5-6 prove it.

The 16 attachments arranged in chronological order show that my husband was wrongly accused of scientific misconduct by Dr. Kemp and other faculty members.

Texas A&M University like any other university, can be great only when faculty members are true scholars and intellectuals with imagination and integrity, who serve as positive role models for students.

My husband is such a role model.

Texas A&M University can be proud to have a Distinguished Professor who leads in this capacity not only scientifically but also in his professional bearing under corrosive fears.

The contents of the attachments to this letter provide evidence that Dr. W. Michael Kemp's accusations of scientific misconduct against my husband are unfounded and that Prof. Bockris' name should therefore be cleared of all accusations.

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Lillian R. Bockris

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II. ACADEMIC FREEDOM AND RESPONSIBILITY

- A. Academic Freedom: Institutions of higher education exist for the common good. The common good depends upon an uninhibited search for truth and its open expression. Hence, it is essential that each faculty member be free to pursue scholarly inquiry without undue restriction, and to voice and publish individual conclusions concerning the significance of evidence that he or she considers relevant. Each faculty member must be free from the corrosive fear that others inside or outside the University community, because their views may differ, may threaten his or her professional career or the material benefits accruing from it.

Each faculty member is entitled to full freedom in the classroom in discussing the subject being taught. Faculty members also are citizens of the nation, state, and community; therefore, when speaking, writing, or acting outside the classroom, they must be free from institutional censorship or discipline. On such occasions faculty members should make it clear that they are not speaking for the institution.

- B. Academic Responsibility: For faculty members the notion of academic freedom is linked to the equally demanding concept of academic responsibility. As a faculty member, a person assumes certain responsibilities to the profession, the students, the institution, and society at large. Some of these are listed below:

1. The fundamental responsibilities of a faculty member as a teacher and scholar include maintenance of competence in one's field of specialization and the exhibition of such professional competence in the classroom, studio, library, or laboratory and in the public arena by such activities as discussions, lectures, consulting, publications, or participation in professional organizations and meetings.
2. The demonstration of professional integrity by a faculty member includes recognition that the public will judge the profession as well as the institution by one's statements and behavior. Therefore, the faculty member should strive to be accurate, to exercise appropriate restraint, to be willing to listen to and show respect to others expressing different opinions, and to avoid creating the impression that the faculty member speaks or acts for the college or the University when speaking or acting as a private person.



3. A faculty member's comments regarding matters of public concern are protected even though they may be highly critical in tone or content, or even erroneous; but such statements are not protected free speech if they substantially impede the faculty member's performance of professional responsibilities, or if they materially and substantially interfere with the regular operation of the institution, or one of its components. The constitutionally protected right of the faculty member, as a citizen, to freedom of expression must be balanced with the interest of the University, as an employer, in promoting the quality of the educational services it performs through its employees. Knowingly false statements or statements made in reckless disregard of the truth are not entitled to constitutional protection, and public statements may be so without foundation as to call into question the fitness of the faculty member to perform professional duties.
4. A faculty member should be judicious in the use of controversial material in the classroom. Logfile.
5. A faculty member should act professionally in the classroom and in other academic relationships with students. A faculty member should maintain respect for the student and for the student's role as a learner. The faculty member should be available at reasonable intervals to the student for consultation on course work.

III. TENURE AND PROMOTION

A. Eligibility for Tenure:

1. To be eligible to receive tenure, a faculty member generally should be an employee of Texas A&M University who holds academic rank as instructor, assistant professor, associate professor, professor or distinguished professor. Members of the faculty whose appointments are ordinarily temporary, part-time, or otherwise clearly short-term, e.g., lecturers, visiting professors of any rank, graduate students serving as teaching assistants, and post-doctoral fellows are generally not entitled to tenure and consequently will ordinarily not be subject to the provisions of this document regarding the probationary period for tenure. Full-time research associates also are normally considered to have term appointments and are considered to hold positions that are without tenure and not tenure-accruing.



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received by means of an amplified telephone conversation (e.g., a speakerphone) which permits all persons present at the time to hear and take part in the testimony as if the witness were in the room. It is the responsibility of the chair to see to it that witnesses are given a fair opportunity to be heard and to explain their statements in order to give the committee the benefit of their knowledge regarding the matter under investigation. The rules of civil procedure and evidence as recognized in Texas do not apply to this proceeding. The governing standard for all evidence shall be fundamental fairness.

5. EXAMINATION OF RECORD

Upon request, the respondent shall be provided with copies of the record of any recorded meeting of the committee, all documents, and other tangible evidence considered by the committee and bearing directly upon its decision.

6. PROCEEDINGS

All proceedings of the committee shall be closed in accordance with applicable regulations.

7. STANDARD OF PROOF

The standard of proof in proceedings under this policy shall be by a preponderance of the evidence.

8. RECORDS

All tape recordings, written documents, computer records, photographs, and other fixed information generated by or reviewed in the course of an inquiry or investigation shall be treated as confidential and shall not be released to any party other than the respondent, complainant, and officials having a need to know, including officials of the state and federal governments. Improper release of such information may be cause for disciplinary action up to and including dismissal, as well as action under Article 6252-17a, V.A.C.S.

9. FINDINGS

The findings of the committee, along with any recommended sanction or sanctions, shall be forwarded in writing to the designated officer and the respondent in accordance with the time limits established by this policy.

Communication with the Senior Vice President and Provost

The Distinguished Professors not only bring honor and recognition to the University, but also comprise a body of individuals with expertise and a desire to be a resource for Texas A&M's progress. The Senior Vice President and Provost, through monthly meetings with the Executive Committee of the Distinguished Professors and annual meetings with the entire body of Distinguished Professors, desires to discuss and communicate opportunities for contributions to the advancement of the University.

TPM 2.3.2.7

September 1993

New Energy Times