

PURDUE

UNIVERSITY

OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR
RESEARCH

To: R. Byron Pipes, Ph.D., John Leighton Bray Distinguished Professor of Engineering,
Chairperson
W. Dale Compton, Ph.D., Lillian M. Gilbreth Professor Emeritus
Ronald G. Reifenberger, Ph.D., Professor of Physics
From: Peter E. Dunn, Associate Vice President for Research; Director, University Research
Administration; and Professor of Entomology *P. Dunn*
Date: April 17, 2006
Re: Examination Committee

On behalf of Vice President for Research Charles O. Rutledge, Ph.D., I thank you for your willingness to serve on an Examination Committee to initiate a review of issues regarding sonofusion research led by Rusi Taleyarkhan, Ph.D., A.L. Bement Jr. Professor of Nuclear Engineering.

The charge to this Examination Committee is (i) to discover and examine facts and circumstances surrounding concerns described in recent articles on sonofusion research at Purdue that have appeared in Nature (March 8, 2006) and elsewhere, by reference to published articles, conducting interviews with relevant individuals, and review of materials that may become available; (ii) from your understanding of these facts, to define questions (issues) that must be addressed to resolve these questions (issues); and (iii) to recommend approaches to resolve these questions. Through this process, it will be the goal of the Committee to discover and clarify facts, and identify critical issues. Personal opinions should be judged to have merit only to the extent that they are supported by facts. The Examination Committee will provide to the Vice President for Research a written Final Report that summarizes its procedures, identifies individuals interviewed and materials reviewed, identifies the questions and issues to be resolved, and provides recommendations of approaches to address these questions and issues. This Final Report should be submitted on or before May 22, 2006.

If, during the course of this initial fact-finding, the Examination Committee receives or recognizes an allegation of potential research misconduct as defined by Purdue University Executive Memorandum C-22 (attached), the Examination Committee will describe the allegation and transmit it to the Vice President of Research in the Final report of the Examination Committee. Any such allegations will be addressed using the principles and procedures specified in Executive Memorandum C-22.

In my capacity as Purdue's Research Integrity Officer, I have been assigned to provide staff support for the Examination Committee from the Office of the Vice President for Research.

To ensure the objectivity, fairness, and integrity of the Committee's review, it is critical that strict confidentiality be maintained. Committee members should not discuss the Committee's business with anyone other than other Committee members or me. Any inquiries received by

Committee members from members of the Press or from other sources internal or external to the University should be referred to me. Ms. Jeanne Norberg will serve as the University's sole spokesperson in the event that it is determined that comment is necessary or desirable. Any materials received by members of the Committee should be provided to me so that I can share them with all other members of the Committee. Committee members should not agree to meet with others or to engage in individual discussions of matters related to the review.

Please address any questions related to this review directly to me.