

PURDUE

UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF NUCLEAR ENGINEERING

400 Central Drive
W. LAFAYETTE, IN 47907-2017

Dr. Sally Mason, Provost
Purdue University
Hovde Hall of Administration
610 Purdue Mall
West Lafayette, IN 47907-2040

February 15, 2007

Dear Provost Mason,

On February 7, 2007, the Administration announced a decision that cleared Professor Rusi Taleyarkhan's bubble fusion claims of misconduct allegations.

We as senior professors of the School of Nuclear Engineering are deeply perplexed about the process used to arrive at this decision.

In this we are not alone. As evidenced by numerous articles appearing in the scientific and popular press, the scientific community adds now to the growing concerns regarding the veracity of bubble fusion claims significant questions related to process. For background purposes we attach selective articles.

As the chief academic officer of Purdue University we turn to you and respectfully request clarifications regarding the aforementioned decision. Specifically, we seek answers to the following questions:

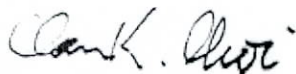
- a) How many College and University committees were involved, when were the said committees charged, what was their written charge, and when did they deliver their findings to the Administration?
- b) What was the make up of the committees, what are the fields of specialization of the committee members and what criteria were used to select them?
- c) During the period of time the committees were in operation, how many times did they meet and for how long?
- d) What was the basis of the committees' inquiry? What allegations were considered? With what material were the committees provided? Furthermore, what persons did they interview? We are not aware of the committees interviewing any prominent scientist in the area or anyone of the individuals from within and outside Purdue that came forward with allegations (with the exception of Professor Tsoukalas).

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We appreciate the need for confidentiality in any proceeding of this nature. You would agree with us, however, that confidentiality is not secrecy (where the process can be fuzzy, unknowingly modified, uncertain, or, simply not transparent) and that secrecy ultimately undermines the legitimacy of any confidential proceeding.

We are grateful for your attention and your prompt response to our questions.

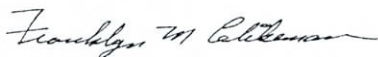
Sincerely,



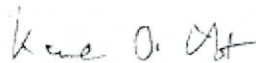
Chan K. Choi, PhD
Professor of Nuclear Engineering



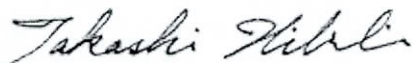
Mamoru Ishii, PhD
Walter Zinn Distinguished Professor of
Nuclear Engineering



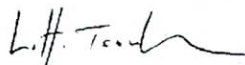
Franklyn M. Clikeman, PhD
Professor Emeritus of Nuclear Engineering,
Former Acting Head of the School of
Nuclear Engineering



Karl O. Ott, PhD
Professor Emeritus of Nuclear Engineering



Takashi Hibiki, PhD
Professor of Nuclear Engineering



Lefteri H. Tsoukalas, PhD
Professor of Nuclear Engineering
Former Head of the School of Nuclear
Engineering

Cc: Dr. Martin Jischke, President
Cc: Dr. Leah Jamieson, John A. Edwardson Dean of Engineering
Cc: University Senate
Cc: Board of Trustees

Attachments:

1. "Disputed Inquiry Clears Bubble Fusion Engineer," *Nature*, February 13, 2007.
2. "Upper Bound for Neutron Emission from Sonoluminescing Bubbles in Deuterated Acetone," *Phys. Rev. Letters*, February 9, 2007.
3. Comments on "Taleyarkhan et al. Reply:" Preprint at <http://arXiv.org/physics/072009> February 1, 2007.
4. "Purdue U. Panel Exonerates Scientist Accused of Misconduct in 'Tabletop' Fusion Research," *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, February 8, 2007.
5. "Second Inquiry Exonerates Taleyarkhan," *ScienceNOW*, February 7, 2007.
6. "Researcher Cleared of Misconduct, but Case is Still Murky," *The New York Times*, February 13, 2007.
7. "Tabletop Fusion Claims Ignite a Furor at Purdue," *Chicago Tribune*, February 9, 2007.