

Subject:To the Members of the FuseNet Academic Council

Date:Sun, 27 Jan 2019 17:11:49 -0800

From:Steven B. Krivit <>

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Prof. Piergiorgio Sonato (University of Padua)

Dear Members of the FuseNet Academic Council,

For seven months I have attempted to encourage the FuseNet board of governors to correct its false claims about ITER. The board has indeed corrected some of the false statements on its Web site. However, the board has knowingly chosen to continue publishing the most significant false claim.

I have done my best to encourage the board to communicate honestly and transparently to its student audience. As I told the board on Jan. 16, 2019, my patience will run out on Feb. 1. If FuseNet wishes to intentionally publish a claim that, for an audience of non-experts is false, that is its choice. But I hope it chooses otherwise.

This statement on the association's [ITER Web page](#) remains false and misleading for non-experts in fusion:

"The fusion reactor itself has been designed to produce 500 MW of thermal output power for 50 MW of net injected power, a plasma power amplification factor of ten ($Q=10$)"

To make the sentence unambiguously honest requires the addition of only three words:

"The fusion reactor itself has been designed to produce *a plasma with* 500 MW of thermal output power for 50 MW of net injected power, a plasma power amplification factor of ten ($Q=10$)"

This makes the crucial and clear distinction between an output associated with the overall reactor power balance versus an output associated with the plasma power balance.

Scientists are expected to make every effort to communicate their claims clearly and unambiguously. It would reflect poorly on you — and your association — to do anything less.

I am truly hoping that within the next five days, your organization will demonstrate the scientific integrity that reflects well on each of you, your association, and its members.

Thank you.
Steven

Attachment: 20190116-Krivit-to-FuseNet-Board.pdf

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