
From: Alexander, Karen
Sent: 07 September 2007 17:24
To: <email address redacted>
Subject: University of Teesside

Dear Patrick,

Whilst you may already be aware that the University has received extensive correspondence in relation to your recent conferment as a Visiting Professor of the University, I nevertheless felt that I should draw this to your attention directly.

A number of individuals, many of whom I think will be already well known to you, have sought to gather information about the basis for your appointment (through the use of a number of Freedom of Information requests) and have, as a result, raised a number of issues about the information upon which the University based its decision – information which I hope you will understand the University feels that it must now investigate in order to assure itself that its decision was well grounded.

In addition, it has been drawn to our attention that, following your conferment, you (at least temporarily) adopted the title of Visiting Professor in Mental Health and Nutrition. Can I stress that it is not normally University practice to attach a descriptor to the title of Visiting Professor but, if that were to be considered appropriate, such titles must be agreed with me (as Chair of the Professorial Conferment Committee) after discussion with the Dean of the relevant School. In your case, it is important to stress that the nomination for conferment of the title of Visiting Professor was submitted by our School of Social Sciences & Law (not by our School of Health & Social Care) and any agreed title would need to reflect the contribution that we anticipate you making to our work in psychology rather than in the field of mental health or nutrition. Could I therefore re-iterate Tony Chapman's earlier request to you that you do not use the title of "Visiting Professor in Mental Health & Nutrition" and that you liaise with Liz Barnes, Dean of our School of Social Sciences & Law, if you would like to adopt another relevant title that describes your current and future engagement with the University.

Whilst much of the information relating to the concerns that have been expressed to the University has been publicly posted on the "Holdfordwatch" website, please do contact Professor Cliff Hardcastle, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research & Enterprise), if you feel you require any further information, or would like to discuss these issues with us.

With best wishes.

Professor Graham Henderson
Vice-Chancellor & Chief Executive