

THE REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
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June 16, 2010

VIA EMAIL

Sharon Noonan Kramer
SNK1955@aol.com

Re: Inclusion of Name of UCLA Professor as a Co-Author of a 2003 U.S. Chamber of Commerce Report

Dear Ms. Kramer:

This is in response to your June 13, 2010 email letter to me in which you express concern about the University's being an implied signatory to a 2003 U.S. Chamber of Commerce report about mold. You disagree with the findings of the report, which apparently have been used in a lawsuit. One of the authors is identified as a UCLA professor.

The University of California protects its name vigorously, and appreciates being informed of misuses of its name. California Education Code section 92000 prohibits the use of the University's name in a way that implies endorsement of goods or services or an affiliation that does not exist. The Code, however, specifically allows persons to identify their present or past relationship with the University when stating their qualifications and experience. The Code section provides in pertinent part:

“(b) Nothing in this section shall interfere with or restrict the right of any person to make a true and accurate statement of his or her present or former relationship or connection with, his or her employment by, or his or her enrollment in, the University of California in the course of stating his or her experience or qualifications for any academic, governmental, business, or professional credit or enrollment, or in connection with any academic, governmental, professional, or other employment whatsoever.”

Further, faculty at the University of California and other institutions routinely engage in research and writing that, when published, identify the institution with which they are affiliated. Faculty throughout the United States enjoy academic freedom to reach their own conclusions and publish in publications of their choice. Neither the University of California nor other U.S. higher education institutions engages in preapproval, monitoring, or censorship of such writings.

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Accordingly, the University would not ask the professor to remove his name from the Chamber of Commerce report, and there is nothing improper in his having listed his affiliation with UCLA in this specific manner.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mary MacDonald", written in a cursive style.

Mary E. MacDonald
Senior Counsel

cc: D. Griffiths