

Steve McIntyre

From: Bill Loudon <bill.louden@uwa.edu.au>
Sent: May-03-13 6:04 AM
To: 'stephengmcintyre@gmail.com'
Cc: Robyn Owens; Gina Barron
Subject: Lewandowsky Complaint - outcome notification

PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Mr McIntyre,

I write with reference to the complaints you lodged in relation to published works of Professor Stephen Lewandowsky. The issues have been considered in accordance with the University's policy on *Managing Alleged Breaches of the Code of Conduct for Research Misconduct*. The University has determined that there has been no breach of the code, and as a result, there is no case of research misconduct.

As you may be aware, the University received a number of complaints regarding the paper entitled *Recursive Fury: Conspiracist Ideation in the Blogosphere in Response to Research on Conspiracist Ideation*. Some complaint matters also referred to an earlier publication entitled *NASA Faked the Moon Landing - Therefore, (Climate) Science is a Hoax: An Anatomy of the Motivated Rejection of Science*. The University was also advised of other complaint matters by the editors of the two journals and by Prof Lewandowsky. The University was therefore in a position to consider a wide range of concerns raised in regards to the two publications,

The preliminary investigation undertaken by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) considered all the issues identified and determined that there has been no breach of the code, and therefore no case of research misconduct has been identified. However, one issue raised was of a perceived conflict of interest in relation to the identity of proprietors and significant contributors to blogs. A recommendation has been made to Prof Lewandowsky to identify these individuals with a footnote at the start of each research publication. Several other criticisms have been made in relation to the methodology used in the study and these have been referred back to the journals for peer assessment and are not part of the University investigation into responsible research practice.

The policy and procedure required to consider the issues has been appropriately followed and there are no further internal processes available. The University will not engage further with you in regards to these matters and this correspondence is now closed.

Yours sincerely,

Prof Bill Loudon