

Churchill Press Release on CU's Refusal to Investigate Charges of Falsification, Fabrication, and Plagiarism Against Investigative Committee

Based on the May 9, 2006 Report of a University of Colorado (CU) Investigative Committee, President Hank Brown has recommended that I be dismissed for "research misconduct." From the beginning, it has been clear that going through my scholarship with a fine-tooth comb was simply a pretext to fire me for my constitutionally protected speech.

The fraudulent nature of CU's "investigation" has been clearly documented by 5 sets of research misconduct complaints filed against the Investigative Committee. Two sets of these complaints were filed in May 2007 by 9 CU professors, 6 outside professors and 2 attorneys. I have since filed three additional sets of research misconduct charges. These 5 complaints document, among other things, falsification and fabrication of evidence and plagiarism by the Committee in its Report on my scholarship.

Today I was informed that the University of Colorado will not investigate these charges against the Investigative Committee because its activities "did not constitute research." This is astonishing, given that the Committee members were purportedly selected on the basis of their scholarly credentials and claim throughout the Report to be engaged in scholarly research and analysis.

The May 9 Report is 124 pages long, with 254 footnotes and 5 appendices. It was immediately published and disseminated under the University's imprimatur. Investigative Committee Chair Mimi Wesson has publicly acknowledged at least one "error" in the Report and stated that in the interest of "research integrity" the Committee will "take steps to ensure that the error is corrected for the scholarly record."

President Brown claims that I should be fired to preserve "academic integrity." Yet he relies on a Report which the University refuses to investigate against credible and well-documented charges of falsifications, fabrications, and plagiarism.

The University cannot have it both ways. If the Investigative Committee's Report is scholarship, it must be held to the same standards to which it claims to be holding me accountable. If it is not, President Brown's recommendation is based on no credible

evidence at all.

The Regents will vote on President Brown's recommendation on July 24. We will see if they simply rubber stamp this charade.

Professor Ward Churchill

Boulder, Colorado

July 21, 2007