



THE UNIVERSITY OF
SYDNEY

*Professor Manuel B. Graeber MD PhD FRCPATH
Barnet-Cropper Chair of Brain Tumour Research*

2 June 2021

Tamara Talmacs
Senior Workplace Relations Advisor
Human Resources
Level 2, Service Building G12
Via email: tamara.talmacs@sydney.edu.au

Dear Tamara,

Re Alleged Criminal Activity in the Faculty of Medicine and Health

Regarding your question for more information, I was approached as the President of the University of Sydney Association of Professors (USAP) by a senior colleague who wanted to see me because Professor John Hunt, the former Head of School of Medical Sciences, allegedly attempted to bribe and blackmail a vulnerable young colleague in order to go after their supervisor.

I am now copying two professorial colleagues in who were approached independently with the same information and who like myself are willing to testify that this happened.

Let me also say that the way I am being threatened by the executive and prevented from speaking about details behind this threat is so disproportionate that it supports the conclusion that this threat serves to undermine the necessary investigation into alleged criminal activity in the Faculty of Medicine and Health (FMH).

I am therefore calling for a Senate investigation into the handling of problems in FMH by the current university management, VC Professor Stephen Garton AM,

and an answer to the question why relevant concerns of the professoriate (attached) were not brought to the attention of the University's Senate by the current Chancellor, Belinda Hutchinson AC. A Senate investigation seems clearly preferable before the matter is taken outside and followed up externally, e.g., by ICAC.

Most importantly, the harassment at which current management excels has to stop immediately. It has been accurately described in a recent student newspaper article, <http://honisoit.com/2021/05/crisis-after-crisis-the-toxic-managerial-culture-in-the-faculty-of-medicine-and-health/>. Good academics are especially ill-prepared for such dishonest behavior which is why such harassment not infrequently causes suicides, <http://www.dcscience.net/2015/09/24/stefan-grimmm-1963-2014-a-memorial-to-a-victim-of-managerialism/>.

Yours sincerely



PROFESSOR MANUEL B. GRAEBER MD PhD FRCPath | Neuropathologist

*Barnet-Cropper Chair of Brain Tumour Research
University of Sydney Brain and Mind Centre
Director, Brain Tumour Research
THE UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY
Rm 705, Building F | 94 Mallett Street
Camperdown NSW 2050 Australia
T +61 2 91144008 | F +61 2 93510731*

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF NEUROGENETICS

President, University of Sydney Association of Professors (USAP)

President, Australian Association of University Professors (AAUP)

Cc: Professors Jonathan Stone and Rebecca Mason

For Senate: A/Professor Maryanne Large, Staff-elected Fellow of Senate

Attachment: USAP Letter "Concerns" dated 4 February 2020

Bra n & M nd Centre
Facu ty of Med c ne and Hea th
Rm 705, Bu d ng F Leve 7
Camperdown
NSW 2050 Austr a

T +61 2 9114 4008
F +61 2 9351 0731
E manue .graeber@sydney.edu.au
sydney.edu.au

ABN 15 211 513 464
CRICOS 00026A



THE UNIVERSITY OF
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USAP

UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSORS

usap@sydney.edu.au, <https://usap.sydney.edu.au/>

Dr Michael Spence,
Vice-Chancellor,
University of Sydney.

4 February 2020

Dear Dr Spence,

The Professoriate of the University of Sydney as represented by the University of Sydney Association of Professors (USAP) is taking the unusual step of asking you directly for help.

We consider the current situation very serious as the reputation of this University, which is all of us, is at risk, and urgent, as we hold grave fears for the well-being of a number of academics and other staff.

We ask you to seriously consider the reputational risk to the University of Sydney due to the increasing reports of unfairness, perceptions of harassment and bullying, recurrent patterns of maladministration and perceived bias.

Key examples are outlined in the attached documentation.

Not all USAP Council members have direct experience of the matters in the attached documents, but are nevertheless greatly concerned about the reputational risk to the University.

The Council of the University of Sydney Association of Professors has made this decision after extensive deliberation. Considering the principles we have to uphold there is no alternative to making this submission.

On behalf of USAP Council

Respectfully,

USAP President

Cc Ms Belinda Hutchinson, AM, Chancellor.

Encl.

Sidere mens eadem mutato