



OFFICE OF THE VICE CHANCELLOR FOR RESEARCH
119 CALIFORNIA HALL #1500

BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA 94720-1500

January 22, 2013

Professor Terrence Deacon
Department of Anthropology

Dear Professor Deacon

After a formal investigation, the University has determined that there is no merit to allegations that you violated the University's Research Misconduct Policy and Faculty Code of Conduct by committing plagiarism or misappropriating the ideas of others.

As you are aware, in May 2012, Vice Provost for the Faculty Janet Broughton received a formal complaint alleging that you had engaged in plagiarism and misappropriation of ideas in certain scholarly publications. Pursuant to campus procedures, Vice Provost Broughton referred the matter to my office for review. Associate Vice Chancellor for Research Robert Price appointed a committee of two faculty experts to investigate the allegations. On January 11, the committee submitted its final report, which concluded the allegations are without foundation. (Copy enclosed.) I have reviewed the report, and I find that the committee's investigation was thorough and its conclusions fair and well-reasoned. I accept the report and its conclusions and have determined that you committed no research misconduct.

The University has an obligation to fully investigate allegations of misconduct, even when they are made against highly respected members of the University community such as yourself. I wish to assure you, however, that the fact that the University initiated an investigation should in no way adversely reflect on your ethics or on your long and distinguished academic career.

In a typical case, this would end the matter. This case is not typical. Certain individuals have engaged in an email and internet campaign to broadcast these accusations and the fact of the University's investigation, resulting in unjustified damage to your reputation. The University has both a legal and moral obligation to take steps to restore the reputations of individuals wrongly accused of research misconduct. Therefore, with your consent, the University will release the committee's report and will post information on its web site that describes the allegations, the University's investigation, and its determination that the allegations were unfounded. I regret that you have incurred unwarranted injury to your reputation, and I am hopeful that these steps will help repair it.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Graham Fleming".

Graham Fleming
Vice Chancellor for Research