





From: [Manuel Graeber](#) 
Date: 27 September 2021 at 17:16:02 Australian Eastern Standard Time
To: [Mark Scott](#) 
Cc: [Vice Chancellor](#) , [Simon Kempton](#) 
Subject: **Internal Audit reference SI 2021-19**

Dear Vice-Chancellor,

I regret to inform you that the University's internal audit process is not working.

We disagree completely with the conclusions drawn by McLoughlin/Dai below as they effectively amount to a cover-up.

Key evidence could not yet be presented because of COVID as audit are fully aware.

We recommend either reopening the process immediately but under the supervision of a truly independent and objective investigator or by passing the matter on to the police. The latter would have the distinct advantage that the necessary procedures would be simplified.

Yours sincerely,

Manuel Graeber

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From: Martin McLoughlin
<martin.mcloughlin@sydney.edu.au>
Date: Monday, 27 September 2021 at 15:47
To: Manuel Graeber
<manuel.graeber@sydney.edu.au>
Cc: Dan Dai <dan.dai@sydney.edu.au>
Subject: Privileged and confidential - report of alleged wrongdoing [Internal Audit reference SI 2021-19]

Dear Professor Graeber

I refer to previous communications in relation to the complaint which you raised with Internal Audit on 25 May 2021, which is being handled by the University as a Public Interest Disclosure in accordance with the [Reporting Wrongdoing Policy 2012](#).

As you are aware, we have spoken to a number of complainants as part of our assessment of the complaint,

which has now been completed. We have also interviewed both of your witnesses and reviewed relevant University records.

The allegations which you made and which were considered by this assessment were as follows:

1. Professor John Hunt, the former Head of School, allegedly attempted to bribe and blackmail a vulnerable young colleague in order to 'go after their Supervisor';
2. When Professor Sarah Young learned that your office had a security camera, she used her position to try and find out whether there could be potentially incriminating material either on the camera or stored elsewhere. As proven by the camera recording, Professor Sarah Young and Mr Matthew Storey were executing Professor Robyn Ward's long-standing and completely unreasonable plan to move you out of your dedicated (Commonwealth contract) research environment, the true reason for their visits to your office on 11 and 12 February 2021;
3. On 4 June 2021, you broadened your allegations to suggest that the persons of interest in the alleged wrongdoing included the Chancellor, Professor Garton (then Vice-Chancellor and Principal), Dr Michael Spence (former Vice-Chancellor and Principal), and Professor Robert Vandenberg (Head of School of Pharmacology), in addition to the individuals you previously raised allegations against; and
4. Your allegation against Professor Garton was that he had signed off a letter of allegation including fabricated charges which were

fabricated after and in response to your wrongdoing submission to Internal Audit.

After considering all of the information available, we are satisfied, on the balance of probabilities, that all of the allegations are unsubstantiated:

- In relation to allegation 1, whilst it was established that Professor Hunt did give the junior academic \$300, it could not be substantiated that it was for an improper or corrupt purpose;
- In relation to allegations 2 and 4, there was a lack of evidence to support these allegations; and
- In relation to allegation 3, no evidence supported your claim that the Chancellor, Professor Garton, Dr Michael Spence and Professor Robert Vandenburg had committed any wrongdoing.

There is one aspect of the complaint which has been referred to HR as falling outside the jurisdiction of Internal Audit and that is the issues which you raised in relation to the alleged culture in the Faculty, and in regard to the allegations you made about bullying and harassment. I have been advised that as a result of management and staff concerns about the culture of School of Medical Science (SoMS) staff within the MFB building, a cultural review will be undertaken shortly. The scope had intended to be limited to SoMS staff within the MFB, however we can ensure that the review extends an invitation for you to take part.

Further, the University takes very seriously allegations of bullying and harassment. If you have any additional material that the University should consider with regard to bullying

and harassment I would ask you to please contact Naomi Connolly, Senior Workplace Relations Advisor in Human Resources at naomi.connolly@sydney.edu.au.

We are now treating the complaint as closed. If, in the future, you have additional evidence which you wish to provide, please reach out to Internal Audit in confidence and we will assess whether the matter should be re-opened.

Thank you for bringing this matter to the University's attention.

Kind regards

Martin

Martin McLoughlin | Acting Chief Internal Auditor
The University of Sydney
Internal Audit

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