

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

The Hon Tim Crakanthorp MP Minister for Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education and Minister for the Hunter Attn. Elliot Stein, Chief of Staff 52 Martin Place Sydney NSW 2000 elliot.stein@minister.nsw.gov.au Cc:

21 July 2023

Dear Elliot and Tim,

Targeting of my students by university management

I am sending this letter ahead of our meeting because like my colleague Professor Hans Zoellner I am asking for ministerial intervention, but I do not want this request to be dealt with among other things at the planned meeting with USAP Council on 28 July.

In my official role as USAP president I have made a public interest disclosure and there have been many reprisals by managers in response (Attachment 1) including serious victimization of the three students copied in on this email (

I have not heard about such victimization of students to target their supervisor (!) in any of the five other countries where I have worked as an academic (Germany, US, Japan, UK, KSA) and I consider such behaviour the nadir of managerialist depravity which is totally unacceptable at a university. The responsible managers must be held to account.

The original witness statements of **Constant** and **Constant** to audit are attached along with a pertinent email by **Constant** (Attachment 2). **Constant and Constant need to be reinstated and Constant allowed to enrol without further delay**. **Constant** already holds a Bachelors, Masters and PhD from USYD. Two other affected PhD students who have given up in the meantime are not mentioned here.

There is additional information in my attached letter to Senate (such as **the need to restore our workspace and move my archive and other research materials back to their original location**,

Attachment 3) for which I did not receive a confirmation of receipt. Since the ministry also has a representative on Senate it would be of interest to know whether my letter was ever forwarded to them. If not, it would fit with what we have heard, i.e., that Senate is kept in the dark regarding certain university matters.

Senate should be the governing body but as far as we know even the agenda for Senate meetings is prepared by the university executive making proper governance effectively impossible.

Yours sincerely,



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