

May 26th, 1993

BY REGISTERED MAIL

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Mr. W.

Streetsville, Ontario

Dear Mr. W.

At its hearings on May 19th and May 25th, 1993, the University Tribunal considered the following charges against you:

THAT on or about December 9, 1992 you did intentionally represent as your own an idea or expression of an idea or work of another in connection with an academic work, contrary to Section B.I.1. (d) of the University of Toronto Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters; and

THAT on or about December 9, 1992 you did intentionally submit for credit an academic work containing a reference to a source which had been concocted contrary to Section B.I.1. (f) of the University of Toronto Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters.

In particular, you submitted as your final essay in GGR 334F a paper entitled "Essay on the Fate of the Aral Sea". Many of the ideas, expressions of ideas and much of the work of the paper was copied from the following sources: Precoda, N., Ambio 20(3) 109-114; Micklin, P.P., Post-Soviet Geography 33(5): 269-282 and Kotlyakor, V.M. et al., Post-Soviet Geography 33(5): 283-295. Many of the citations in the paper were concocted.

I am writing to formally advise you of the decision of the Tribunal with respect to these charges. The jury found you guilty of the charges and imposed the following sanctions:

- a grade of "O" on your final essay in GGR 334F;
- a failing grade in the course, GGR 334F;
- a written reprimand with a copy to go into your file for a period of three years;

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- that the sanction be recorded on your transcript for a period of 18 months; and
- that the decision be reported to the Provost for publication in the University newspapers, with the name of the student withheld.

In reaching its decision, the jury stated that "we felt: that there was clear evidence that there were explicit instructions from the instructor as to what constituted plagiarism, so that there should be no doubt about what was expected on the essays; that the extent of the direct copying was considerable so we were forced to conclude that there was some deliberation on the part of the student. We were in a bit of a dilemma. We felt that it was necessary to impose a penalty, in part to keep faith with the students who cope with the pressure without committing any sort of offense. We were very concerned that Mr. W. did not appreciate the seriousness of what he had done and had not acknowledged guilt. On the other hand, we felt compelled to give some weight to the character letters that were submitted in evidence and we also took into account that there was no evidence of any previous offence. So we tried to balance the need for firm action against consideration for the student's future."

Information concerning rights of appeal may be found in Section C.III of the Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters. The deadline for filing an appeal by you or by the University is June 18th, 1993.

Yours truly,

Lynn Snowden
Secretary
University Tribunal

c.c.: P. Jackson
L.R. Rothstein
P. Silcox
D. Cook
J. Foley
