

Rusi,

Why did you agree to participate with the BBC Horizon show in their "investigation"?

After seeing what they did, was there anything about the show that surprised you?

Thanks,
Steve

Date: Thu, 09 Mar 2006 18:39:38 -0500

From: Rusi Taleyarkhan <rusi@ecn.purdue.edu>

Subject: Re: Message forwarded from S.Krivit (rpt->s.krivit,BBCquestion;3/9/06)

Steve:

This started off innocently. I recall asking Jeanne for guidance along with Bill Baitinger of Purdue (he was skeptical but didn't prevent) . Jeanne per my recollection had offered that we ought not to give any data to them or videotapes of expts,etc. that can be twisted out of proportion. BBC producer mentioned he was only interested in coming to do a serious documentary on acoustic fusion for the benefit of the Horizon audience and to help the lay person appreciate it's potential. In good-faith I agreed to go ahead. Found out true intentions later when it was revealed BBC intended to fund quick-turnaround work at UCLA. No funding was offered for Purdue even upon telling him we can't use university resources for technical work for free, but I did not pursue that further. After they completed their piece with UCLA and with their own referee board I got a demand to

provide within a few days, time and energy looking over on the UCLA results,etc. I sent them a one-page response / explanation that was ignored in their show. It was a setup (but a very valuable lesson on dealing with the media). Numerous UK residents who saw the show sent their regrets. Ken Chang wrote a noteworthy article on that attempt by

Putterman - below is an excerpt from his 3/15/2005 article in the NYTimes.

"The only known attempt to reproduce the Oak Ridge experiment was by Dr. Seth Putterman of the University of California, Los Angeles, whose the work was financed by an unusual source, the BBC. For an episode of its "Horizon" science series that focused on the Oak Ridge experiment, the BBC gave Dr. Putterman \$70,000 to try to replicate it.

"I'm desperate for money, and here's a chance to infuse my laboratory with overhead-free money," Dr. Putterman said. "We had fun."

A few months later appeared the confirmatory article in the peer-reviewed journal Nucl.Engr.Design - the review/editing/acceptance for which was handled by their editor-in-chief.

Rusi

Date: Fri, 10 Mar 2006 11:13:11 -0500
From: Rusi Taleyarkhan <rusi@ecn.purdue.edu>

To: Steve Krivit
Subject: Re: do you remember the producers name?

"In good-faith I agreed to go ahead. I found out their true intentions later when it was revealed that BBC intended to fund quick-turnaround work at UCLA. No funding was offered for Purdue even on telling the producer that we can't use university resources for technical work for free, but I did not pursue that further."

Name is Colin Murray.

Dr. Rusi P. Taleyarkhan

Date: Fri, 02 Mar 2007 11:34:27 -0500
From: Rusi Taleyarkhan <rusi@ecn.purdue.edu>
To: Steve Krivit
CC: Iselander, Rusi Taleyarkhan <rusi@ecn.purdue.edu>
Subject: [Fwd: Statement to BBC on Acoustic ICF (1/19/05)]

You will note that the statement citing the response BBC requested was not in any way talked about in their program, nor the fact that I had cautioned them to not waste their money.

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Dr. Rusi P. Taleyarkhan

Rusi,

The program, "An Experiment to Save the World," which I believe aired on 17 Feb. 2005, stated the following:

"We even invited Rusi Taleyarkhan to come to the laboratory and check Seth Putterman's equipment. But he declined our invitation on the basis that in the small and competitive world of fusion science he did not feel comfortable with Seth Putterman's group."

Can you tell me more about this invitation and the circumstances surrounding it, relative to the film crew's visit? Do you remember the question they asked you?

Thanks,
Steve

Date: Fri, 02 Mar 2007 20:48:37 -0500
From: Rusi Taleyarkhan <rusi@ecn.purdue.edu>
To: Steve Krivit
Subject: Re: [Fwd: Re: Visit to Purdue on 17-18, September.]

Steve:

There was no invitation to visit as quoted by the film crew when they visited with me. In fact, as I explained I was shocked that after taking up 2 days of my time making me believe they were interested in my lab and past OR work only, they were really here to video my lab with the apparatus, etc. and then after that only they told me they were going to provide funds to Putterman. The first I heard about the work results of UCLA was on 1/13/05 in an email from Colin Murray sending me a mass of information giving me a few days to review and respond because the story was to be finalized on to film in by 1/25/05. I sent to him a statement that was ignored in the film (see attached).

Rusi