

Mize, Darla J.

From: Rusi Taleyarkhan [rusi@ecn.purdue.edu]
Sent: Monday, November 06, 2006 9:55 AM
To: Bralts, Vincent F
Cc: Mize, Darla J.; Reece, Kellie A; rusi@purdue.edu; lselander@duanemorris.com; NMBilimoria@duanemorris.com
Subject: Re: Appointment with Rusi T. - urgent (rpt->v.bralts;11.6.06)

Vince:

Hope you get to feeling well soon. We have a potentially urgent matter and am compelled to write this note to you. I am concerned that rash actions may be taken by the School's graduate committee chairman during your absence.

Among several items that we needed to discuss, one of them relates to PhD applicant Tom Adams of Crane Naval Base, IN. I am concerned about the method with which the graduate committee has been operating, especially with the hip-shooting lop-sided approach followed by the graduate committee chair - Chan Choi (who, by the way has also been appointed by the previous Head to several other key committees for the School to the exclusion of several of us). For negating some of his egregious actions, I have had to lodge formal complaints with the Dean and Provost's offices on this subject and have had to repeatedly overturned. If need be, I will have to take this action again.

To state an example for the record, late last year as the School of Nuclear Engineering got embroiled in controversy and deep factions developed, Choi (then also appointed Graduate Chair) summarily informed a student applicant (Dean's honor list) from Univ. of Florida who had applied to do a MS/PhD under me that he was rejected without so much as consult with me. That student was too disillusioned and dejected, to even be appealed for a reconsideration by CoE.

Currently, as I have alerted to you several times, we have a fine applicant -Tom Adams from Crane Naval Base for our PhD program. His recommendation letters have arrived and the package is reviewed. Tom Adams has a ~3.9 for his MS from the prestigious Naval Pos-Graduate School; his recommendation letters are excellent; he has ten+ years of research experience in the field and I have first-hand knowledge of his capabilities; he has been selected by the US Navy to receive it's much-sought after PhD Fellowship Grant all done while pursuing a full-time job and raising a family. Tom wishes to undertake his PhD dissertation "full-time" under my guidance while taking leave of absence from Crane. Tom's academic background is in EE, but he is very adaptable, and his interests are to pursue a PhD in nuclear engineering - for long-life energy (battery) sources wherein his EE background should be considered a plus.

I trust you will not permit Choi to take actions like he has taken in the past and reject his candidacy. The graduate committee as it stands is lop-sided and requires redress.

Furthermore, Senator Lugar's office has made it clear to Purdue that nurturing partnerships with Crane Naval Base, Indiana are a very high-priority task for Indiana's future. We must make every effort to nurture our own united states (and Indiana) citizens like Mr. Adams and not lose him to other universities elsewhere, or diminish his zeal pursue higher education due to internal political issues.

Look forward to leadership from you on this matter.

Rusi

Bralts, Vincent F wrote:

> Darla:

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> I am not feeling well this morning. Could you please reschedule my
> appointment this morning with Dr. Rusi Taleyarkhan for later in the week?

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> Thanks much,

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> Vince

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> Vincent F. Bralts

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