

August 26, 2007

To Whom It May Concern:

From: [REDACTED]

Subject: A statement on behalf of Professor Rusi Taleyarkhan

For nearly [REDACTED] years, I have worked under Professor Taleyarkhan at Purdue University. In that time, I have had a stimulating and educational experience in his lab. He took me in as a freshman and gave me the opportunity to get a taste of the world of research.

Conducting research has given me intellectual freedom and worthwhile tasks that I can not get in the classroom. Professor Taleyarkhan has played a critical role in my development as an engineer. He has invited me to conduct year-round research and has trusted me with projects that directly affect the success of our research group. Although a very busy man, he has always made time for us.

I feel that he is looking out for what is best for me. While a student in his introduction to nuclear engineering course, he assisted me with homework as is required, but also would address any topic of interest to me. I once asked him to be a guest speaker for a campus event that my organization [REDACTED] was holding. He spent the entire day preparing a fantastic presentation on safety in the nuclear industry. He also accompanied the officers to dinner the week after the event. He has always supported me and has taken an interest in my selection of a place to attend graduate school even though Purdue is only one of several schools that I am considering.

The accusations made against him have caused all of us who work with him a great deal of stress. I believe in the work that we are doing. I do however take accusations of scientific dishonesty seriously. I am a student member of the national board of directors of [REDACTED] an organization whose sole purpose is maintaining the social responsibility of science. Research fraud is an issue of great concern to me. I can speak only for myself on this issue, but I can honestly say that I have not witnessed acts of research dishonesty during my time working for Professor Taleyarkhan.

I offer this statement on his behalf to express my appreciation for the opportunities that he has given me and for the interest that he has taken in my professional development.

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