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Dear Principal Hitchcock,

Re: Allegation of Misconduct in Academic Research-

I am writing this letter in accordance with the Article 17 of the Collective Agreement.

I am referring to the recent paper by [REDACTED] and R.W. Smith which is published in the [REDACTED]. A copy of this paper is attached. The work appears to be sponsored by the [REDACTED].

It can be seen from the highlighted sections that major parts of this paper including results presented in [REDACTED] and a substantial number of paragraphs are all directly copied from another paper published by the same authors in another journal [REDACTED] (attached). I believe this represents a serious misconduct in academic research particularly when it is clear that the work has been sponsored by an external-funding agency.

It is also noted that the diagrams shown in Figures [REDACTED] in the first paper ([REDACTED]) and Figures [REDACTED] in the second paper [REDACTED] are lifted from [REDACTED].

Thermotransport Coefficients in Liquid Metallic Alloys, Int. J. Heat and Mass Transfer, Vol. 32, No.12, P. [REDACTED] without permission and acknowledgement. [REDACTED] give the impression that they have constructed these diagrams by modifying [REDACTED]'s original analysis. But in fact the authors have simply lifted the diagrams and the relevant parts and equations directly from the [REDACTED] paper!

It should be noted, of course, that this is not an isolated case. Apparently, there are other similar instances of serious misconduct in recent years involving one or more individuals from the same research group. Below are three selected examples:

Example 1: R.W. Smith and [REDACTED]

This paper, although published in [REDACTED], is in fact derived from work that was conducted by [REDACTED] along time ago. Despite major contributions of [REDACTED] in this work, there is no mention of [REDACTED] as a co-author in the paper. Smith and [REDACTED] have then gone on to publish the same paper in another Journal [REDACTED]. This time they have added [REDACTED].

the name of [REDACTED] as a co-author. By looking at the names of the authors in these two papers, one initially gets the impression that they must be different but in fact the second paper is directly copied from the first. Even the references are the same. There is only one striking difference. In the abstract of the second paper, [REDACTED] has been changed to [REDACTED].

Example II: [REDACTED] and R.W.Smith, [REDACTED]

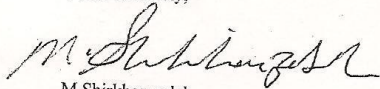
The authors describe research that is derived from work conducted by [REDACTED] almost 10-15 years ago. The paper, however, gives the impression that the research was conducted only very recently with [REDACTED] as a visiting professor at Queen's. The authors have then gone on to state that [REDACTED] is the paper in yet another journal [REDACTED] (P.215). This time they have added the name of another individual [REDACTED] who appears to have made no contribution at all to any of the two papers.

Example III: [REDACTED] R.W.Smith, [REDACTED]

A copy of this paper is attached. The authors have directly copied this paper from another paper (attached). The sections that have been copied are highlighted. The most striking difference between the two papers is that [REDACTED] has been removed as a co-author in the second paper.

In my view, the above examples together demonstrate a pattern of behavior in recent years that, if not stopped immediately, is likely to continue into the future.

Yours Sincerely,



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Associate Professor

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