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PROVOST AND VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

April 1, 2015

Dr. Mark Carlson
Vice Chancellor for Human Resources
Minnesota State Colleges and Universities
30 7th E., Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101-7804

Dear Dr. Carlson,

Upon receipt of your letter dated February 11, 2015 expressing concern over allegations of academic misconduct by Dr. Annette Parker as related to her dissertation, *Key Factors and Stages of Collaboration Within Community College/Automobile Industry Sector Partnerships* (2012), completed in partial fulfillment of the requirements for her Ed. D. degree at Western Kentucky University, I charged Dr. Carl Fox, Associate Provost and Dean of the Graduate School, with initiating a preliminary inquiry per the university's Research Misconduct policy – see

http://www.wku.edu/compliance/documents/research_misconduct_policy.pdf.

This policy defines research misconduct as “an intentional act of deception by the researcher in proposing, conducting, or reporting results of research...” The Policy further defines plagiarism as “representation of another’s work as one’s own.” It further requires that the findings of the preliminary enquiry be held in “strict confidence.”

A review by the committee formed to conduct the preliminary inquiry concluded that Dr. Parker did not intentionally commit plagiarism, and that a full investigation is not warranted. Dean Fox concurs with that assessment.

Yours sincerely,

A. Gordon Emslie
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

c. Dr. Annette Parker
Dean Carl Fox
Mr. Tony Glisson

The Spirit Makes the Master

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