

Director Centre for Veterinary Education questions for NCAT

Date: Sun, 26 Jul 2015 20:40:01 +1000

To: "Hugh White" <h.white@usyd.edu.au>, <sarah.heesom@optusnet.com.au>

From: Tom Lonsdale <tom@rawmeatybones.com>

Subject: Re: Proposed article for C&T- Sefi's ear

Cc: chancellor@usyd.edu.au, complaints@teqsa.gov.au, c.pyne.mp@aph.gov.au, senator.carr@aph.gov.au, senator.dinatale@aph.gov.au, cathy.mcinnnes@ipc.nsw.gov.au, aeod@ncat.nsw.gov.au, office@piccoli.minister.nsw.gov.au, canterbury@parliament.nsw.gov.au

Bcc: f\Contacts\Hugh White,

Dear Hugh,

Further to your email of 25 November 2008 below and our chance meeting 27 February 2015 I am seeking evidence to put before NCAT.

As you know NCAT are due to examine the Centre for Veterinary Education (CVE) and Veterinary Faculty secret deals with junk pet-food makers.

NCAT provides for the voluntary production of documents without need for summons. Accordingly I seek your responses to the three listed categories below.

1.) CVE Refusal to Publish 'Sefi's Ear'

Back in 2008, after much vacillation, you refused to publish the article 'Sefi's Ear' at <http://www.rawmeatybones.com/pdf/C+T%20cat's%20ear%20IIaa.pdf>.

As you know the CVE engages a procession of 'experts' to provide post-graduate education for practising vets. Most if not all the so-called experts are beholden to the junk pet-food makers, either by direct financial involvement or as employed academics in institutions with secret deals with the junk pet-food makers.

At our chance meeting in February this year, I complained again about your refusal even to allow discussion of serious matters within the pages of CVE publications. You explained that back in 2008 you were the newly appointed Director as if that were somehow reason enough for your suppression of the issue. I pressed you to elaborate and asked what if anything had changed in the intervening years and would your decision be different now in 2015.

You waived the question away without answer. I formed the view that a climate of fear -- a well known phenomenon in universities -- appears to influence your decision making.

2.) Pressure Behind the Scenes

As you know the CVE and Veterinary Faculty seek to hide behind GIPA Act provisions to maintain secrecy about junk pet-food deals.

However, it's my belief that other state and federal acts may have relevance.

Accordingly I would appreciate your evidence as to what pressures were brought to bear and

by whom, rendering you incapable of even permitting discussion about junk pet-food makers controlling the 'educational' agenda across most veterinary subjects taught by the CVE.

Of course it raises grave concerns for the quality of your 'continuing education' if as you say in your letter below that the CVE is not prepared to 'act as the conscience of the veterinary profession'.

Does that mean that the CVE, without conscience and under the guise of 'providing continuing education', happily misleads veterinarians with half-truths, falsehoods and the deliberate omission of critical information -- information about the mass poisoning of pets by vets?

3.) Educational and Scientific Reputation

Please provide all reasons you consider legitimate as to why the CVE should maintain secrecy about its deals with junk pet-food makers and pet-food company controlled academics who lead your courses.

Without evidence to the contrary, it appears money, graft and payola are the motivators for the secret junk pet-food deals. If however, you believe that secret deals with giant multinational corporations either maintain or improve the educational and scientific reputation of Sydney University then I believe your evidence should be placed before NCAT. Please advise.

If, without evidence to the contrary, it can be demonstrated that secret deals and inducements govern the CVE course content, not the high ideals of scholarship, professionalism and integrity, will students and course attendees past and present be able to pursue the CVE and Veterinary Faculty for multiple breaches of contract?

In keeping with NCAT summons time frames, your prompt response within five working days would be appreciated.

With thanks.

Yours sincerely,

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At 06:40 AM 25/11/2008, you wrote:

Dear Tom

I must apologise for the delay in writing to you. I had to travel to Melbourne straight after the Council meeting and seem to have been busy ever since.

Your emails to me and the article about Sefi's Ear were discussed and the following recommendations were passed unanimously by Council:

CVE will not publish the article in its present format which is seen to be emotive and unnecessarily inflammatory.

Requests for CVE involvement such as you have proposed in the article are outside the charter and scope of CVE and its Advisory Council.

We understand your concern for the well being of animals and the years you have devoted to this cause, but the role of CVE is to provide continuing education, not act as the conscience of the veterinary profession.

Tom, if you wish to resubmit the article with modifications to reflect the above sentiments I would be happy to consider it for publication. I can understand your views but the University of Sydney would not condone CVE becoming embroiled in what could become a very divisive issue.

Yours sincerely

Hugh

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