

REPORT

of a

INQUIRY OF ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

by

The Dean of the University Faculty

CONFIDENTIAL

February 5, 2004

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I have conducted an inquiry about the accusations of academic dishonesty on the part of Professor Peter Kuniholm, History of Art Department, Cornell University brought by Douglas Keenan, The Limehouse Cut, London in his e-mail of 22 December 2003.

I received the original accusation from Mr. Keenan on 8 December 2003 together with a long paper titled, "Anatolian tree-ring studies are untrustworthy." I read this paper carefully and responded to Mr. Keenan on 17 December 2003 that I believed that "...criticisms in your paper fall under the honest differences in the "interpretations or judgments of data."" Mr. Keenan replied on 22 December 2003 that Prof. Kuniholm responded to a critique that he wrote with "...false and misrepresentative claims."

Accordingly, on 5 January 2004, I opened an inquiry as required by the procedure on Academic Dishonesty.

On 5 January 2004 I met with Prof Kuniholm, provided him with a copy of Mr. Keenan's e-mails and paper and asked him for comments. We discussed the main points of Keenan's accusation. I then asked for the names of some other colleagues in the field who could comment on the accusation in Keenan's paper. I have now received letters from:

Prof. Malcolm Hughes, University of Arizona
Dr. Ian Tyers, Sheffield University
Prof. Crawford H. Geenewalt, Jr., University of California at Berkeley
Prof. Jeffrey S. Dean, University of Arizona

Since all these letters are highly supportive of Prof. Kuniholm's research, his spirit of cooperation and his sharing of data and highly critical of Keenan's accusations, and since my reading of Keenan's paper suggests a reasonable difference of opinion rather than academic dishonesty, I conclude that there is no reasonable cause to believe that academic misconduct has occurred and, hence, further investigation is not required.